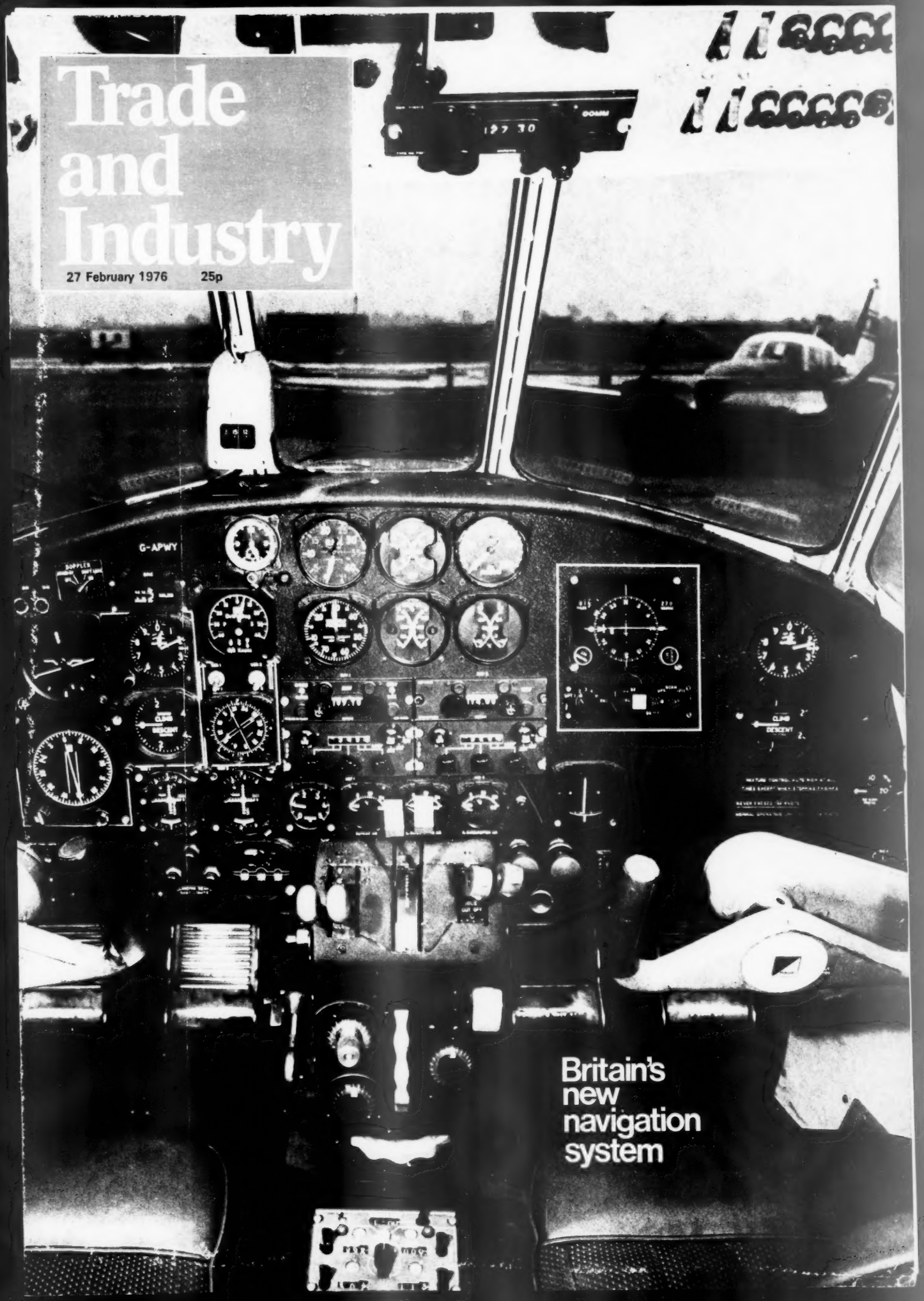
Trade and Industry
27 February 1976 25p
G-APWY
Britain's new navigation system

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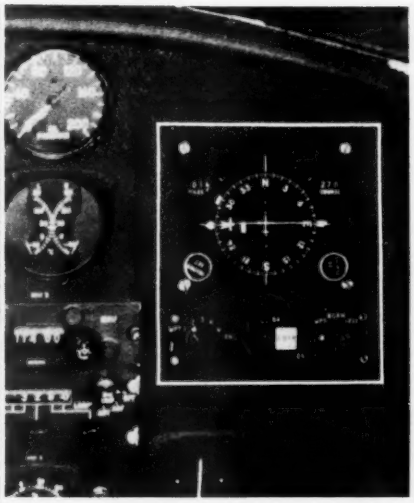
Trade and Industry

27 February 1976

News from the Departments of Industry·Trade·Prices & Consumer Protection



The pilot's display of the new AD620 computerised navigation system for small and medium-sized aircraft introduced by Marconi-Elliott is seen on the right of the console of the company's Piaggio P166 demonstrator aircraft. If the aircraft flies out of range of a beacon, the computer takes over and, using data stored on the flight, provides dead-reckoning navigation for an unlimited time. (see p. 574).

Trade and Industry

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Changes in the operation of IDC control

Under the Town and Country Planning Acts, any application for planning permission for a new industrial building above a certain minimum size outside the development areas must be supported by an industrial development certificate (IDC). Inter alia, the purpose of this control is to allow the Department of Industry the opportunity to identify mobile industrial developments which are potential candidates for locations in the assisted areas. IDCs for speculative industrial development (ie where the proposed occupant is unknown at the time of the IDC application) have not therefore been issued for private sector projects outside the intermediate areas.

Exceptions have been made only in respect of local authorities and new town development corporations for particular categories of developments. This approach to speculative industrial development has tended to inhibit the redevelopment of industrial sites containing obsolete factories, which have been increasing in number in urban areas. To assist in the replacement of these premises by more modern buildings, changes in the operation of the IDC control were announced on 26 February by Gregor MacKenzie, Minister of State for Industry.

Replying to a written Parliamentary question by Nigel Spearing (Newham South) Mr. MacKenzie said:

'My department is concerned about the increasing number of obsolete factories in urban areas. In order to facilitate the improvement of industrial efficiency and working conditions, we have been considering whether there is any way in which speculative industrial redevelopment of old industrial sites outside the assisted areas could be undertaken consistently with the aims of the industrial development certificate system.

'I have now decided to introduce an experimental scheme whereby IDCs could be issued in certain circumstances and subject to certain conditions. The scheme will be reviewed after two years. I am publishing details in tomorrow's issue of *Trade and Industry*.'

The new scheme

Each IDC application to replace an obsolete building by modern premises will be considered on its individual merits. The majority of applications will be expected to fall within the following guidelines.

Proposals will be considered in respect of any town in which obsolete industrial premises are ripe for redevelopment. Proposals should result in the demolition of at least as much existing industrial property as is to be erected.

It is expected that the proposals will be:

1 in respect of industrial buildings erected before 1918, but proposals involving the demolition of pre-1939 premises will also be considered;

2 in respect of buildings empty at the time of the IDC application, but not necessarily empty at the start of the informal discussions mentioned below;

3 in accordance with the appropriate structure, local or development plan, where such exists; and

4 on a scale in keeping with the needs of the locality.

Proposals involving an exchange of land between, for example, housing and industry, would be acceptable on an equivalent site area basis in the context of schemes for the redevelopment of larger areas.

The acceptability to the department of new buildings to be erected on a site will be assessed by reference to the area of the site, not the floor area of the old buildings which may be multi-storey. In most cases, the maximum for single storey development would be 22,000 sq. ft. per acre. Proposals for more intensive development by way of small units in a multi-storey structure would be acceptable, where the circumstances warrant it.

The most practical way to work out proposals acceptable to the department is likely to be through discussions between the developer, the local authority and the appropriate regional office of the department. The formal application for an IDC to redevelop the site would then follow.

In cases where the department is willing to issue an IDC, the certificate will include conditions. These automatically become conditions of a subsequent planning permission and as such are enforceable by the planning authority. The conditions will provide for:

1 restriction of occupation for industrial purposes to firms carrying out industrial activities within the area of the relevant County Council or of the Greater London Council at the time of issue of the IDC for a period of five years from the first rateable occupation of each new unit by a firm. (Where the county includes an intermediate or development area, occupation by a firm from that part of the county will not be permitted);

2 demolition of the buildings on the site to be redeveloped (or on the site to be taken out of industrial use where an exchange of land is involved); and

3 no company or group of companies to occupy more than 40,000 sq. ft of industrial floor space in any one scheme. (Relief from this condition would be considered for specific occupants in exceptional circumstances).

The scheme has been formulated with a view to minimising the loss of opportunities to identify projects potentially mobile to the assisted areas. It is therefore important that the conditions included in the IDCs are observed strictly. These new arrangements are not expected to result in any material net addition to industrial floor space where redevelopment is carried out, nor to lead to significant changes in numbers employed.

Copies of this statement are available from the Regional Offices of the Department of Industry.

'Stop knocking British goods' says Eric Varley

'I hope we will have done with a too fashionable, almost masochistic, cynicism about the quality of British goods among some of our own people,' Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, said on 20 February at the Wakefield Chamber of Commerce.

'I doubt if this could happen in any other major industrial country,' continued Mr. Varley. 'It is hard to imagine the Germans, or the Japanese, or the French knocking their own products in quite the same way. Of course it is perfectly true that some imported goods are better than British ones. But equally a great many of our products are still the equal of, or superior to, anything from abroad. There is no rational basis for any national inferiority complex.

'The switch from the old chauvinistic belief that everything British is automatically best to the opposite extreme of believing it is automatically worst probably says more about the state of mind of parts of our society than about the products of British industry.'

Decline is relative

It was right that we should recognise our shortcomings and there was no denying the formidable economic problems thrown up by several decades of relative industrial decline. 'I stress the word relative,' said Mr. Varley, 'because the problem is not that industry here has failed to make advances, but that it has not done so nearly as quickly as our major competitors.'

Mr. Varley pointed out that the Government's industrial strategy was concerned with improving the structure and performance of our manufacturing base while at the same time strengthening the confidence of both workers and employers. 'And the most important factor that can strengthen confidence is increased industrial investment.'

Bringing forward investment

'In Britain, a survey by my department suggests that the first increase in capital expenditure in industry for three years will finally happen in 1977 – by 10-15 per cent.

'But this year, after allowing for inflation, manufacturing investment could be at its lowest level for 12 years. It is clearly crucial that we get this investment sooner.

'There remains an appalling danger that, by waiting too long some companies will only manage to bring new capacity on stream as the peak of the economic cycle passes.

Accelerating investment

'Our financial incentives are doing a valuable job in helping industry to bring its investment plans forward,' Mr. Varley said. The scheme for accelerating investment projects in industry, for example, has been drawing a heartening number of applications.

'New investment totalling more than £152 million has already been approved on the foundation of Government financial help of £25 million. That is a ratio of six parts of industry money to one part of Government money. The balance of payments saving resulting from these schemes is likely to be in the region of £60-£80 million each year.

'Surely here is an example of the effective and economical use of public money.'

Conservation measures may account for 2 per cent drop in primary energy consumption

Energy conservation measures, including the 'Save It' campaign, may have accounted for a reduction in primary energy consumption of about 2 per cent, Mr. Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Energy, said on 20 February.

He was answering three Parliamentary questions from Peter Rost (South East Derbyshire) who asked what proportion of reduced consumption of primary energy since the launching of the conservation campaign was attributable to the 'Save It' publicity effort and supporting measures and what to other factors.

Mr. Eadie, in a written reply, said:

'Energy consumption is affected by a large number of influences some of which are extremely difficult to measure and others which change their relationship with energy consumption over time.

'After making allowances for industrial and other reductions and a small temperature allowance, conservation measures including the "Save It" campaign seem to have accounted for a reduction in primary energy consumption of about 2 per cent.

'Calculation of the short-term effect of a drop in industrial production is made difficult by the fluctuating relationship with energy consumption. Moreover the current decline in output lies outside the range of recent experience so that there is no close standard for comparison. However, a reasonable estimate of the effect in the first three quarters of 1975 is 3-4 per cent of total primary energy consumption.

'Average temperatures vary very little from one year to another and the impact of temperature is greatly complicated by other factors such as wind and rain. However, a reasonable estimate for the effect of average 1975 temperatures on primary energy consumption related to 1973 is a reduction of about 0.3 per cent.'

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the Editor should be addressed to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 437, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, and *not* to HMSO.

Good safety record for Britain's nuclear industry

Britain's nuclear plants have been outstandingly reliable, and the safety record of the nuclear industry is very good, Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under Secretary at the Department of Energy said this week.

Speaking at a British Insurance (Atomic Energy) Committee dinner, Mr. Eadie said: 'Britain's nuclear industry has a fine safety record. By any conventional standards, all our nuclear plants have been outstandingly reliable.

'The need for reliability has been uppermost in the minds of everyone involved in the design, construction and operation of nuclear plant. This responsible, careful and painstaking attitude is reflected in the industry's safety record.

'Since 1962, when records were first kept centrally, the United Kingdom Atomic Energy Authority (UKAEA) and British Nuclear Fuels Ltd. (BNFL) have had a total of four fatal accidents. All four of them have been accidents which could have happened in any industrial situation. In all that time, not one death has been positively attributed to radiation.

'There have been some injuries from radiation. But here again, since 1962, the radiation injuries have been only four cases of skin burn on the hands at UKAEA and BNFL plants, and only one of these needed significant medical attention.'

Turning to nuclear insurance, Mr. Eadie said: 'One of the unsung achievements of the last twenty years has been the development and successful negotiation internationally of a system of law and insurance which, while limiting the incidence of liability, gives first-class protection to those who may be damaged by a nuclear incident, and ensures that there are funds available to meet claims.

'But the nature and extent of nuclear insurance arrangements are not always understood. Some people have recently expressed anxiety that their own insurance policies covering homes and contents do not include cover for damage caused by radioactivity. It may help a wider audience if I recall here that the sole reason why, as some people say, they cannot insure themselves against nuclear risks is that they don't need to.

'The liability for damage arising from any kind of nuclear incident rests fairly and squarely with the operator of the nuclear plant involved. The Nuclear Installations Act of 1965 makes this very clear. So to include cover against these risks in home insurance policies would simply be duplicating cover.'

Customs notices of interest to exporters

The following Public Notices issued by HM Customs and Excise relate to various aspects of export procedure. Copies of these Notices may be obtained from the local Officer of Customs and Excise, whose address appears in the telephone directory and to whom all inquiries should be addressed, or from the Secretary, HM Customs and Excise, 39-41 Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE.

7	Drawback of Excise Duty on mixed or blended beers.
17	Arrangements for preferential trade between the Channel Islands and the United Kingdom.
49	Temporary importations: international co-operation.
104	ATA Carnets.
112	Authorised hours for Customs work at ports, airports and in long rooms and charges for attendance given at the request of merchants.
112A	Charges for attendance given at private premises at the request of merchants.
118	Samples imported for promoting export trade.
172	Hydrocarbon Oils: drawback of Excise Duty.
207	Re-imported goods: relief from Customs duty and Value Added Tax.
210	Temporary importation of films and similar goods for copying, printing, etc., to fulfil export orders.
221	Duty relief under the Import Duties Act 1958, and pre-financing of Common Agricultural Policy Export refunds.
224	Beer exported on drawback as merchandise: examination and sampling.
241	European Economic Community: Compensatory Levy.
275	Documentation of Exports for Statistical Purposes.
276	Customs Entry forms in the C273 Series: Guidance on their completion.
290	Export of personal and household effects.
291	Effect of budget changes on claims for drawback.
291	Claims for drawback on goods exported where there has been a variation in the duty rate.
300	Export reliefs scheduling scheme.
703	VAT – Exports.
704	VAT – Retail Export Schemes. (Revised November 1973)
705	VAT – Tax free sales of motor vehicles to tourists, etc.
750 and Supplement	Community transit – this describes the system as a whole.
750A	List of Community Transit Offices.
750B	Community transit – Extension to cover Austria and Switzerland.
751 and Supplement	Notes on completing Community transit forms T1, T2 and T3 and Control Copy T forms.
751A	Notes on completing Community transit movement certificates.
752	Free circulation of goods in the European Community.
753	Community transit – the simplified procedure for goods carried by rail.
754	Community transit – Intra-Community treatment of the catches of fishing vessels registered in Member States.
755	Community transit – special control procedures.
756	Instructions on the use of loading lists as the descriptive part of Community transit forms T1, T2 and T3.
757	Community transit – Pre-authenticated movement certificate Form T3L.
774	Hydrocarbon Oils Customs Duties: Additions of *Ad Valorem* Protective Element.
800	EEC Common Agricultural Policy: Customs procedures in respect of export refunds, levies and licences.
810	EEC Preferences – Free Trade Agreements between the EEC and EFTA countries.
810A	EEC Preferences – EFTA countries. Simplification of the documentation system described in Notice 810. Introduction of universal form of movement certificate EUR 1.
811	EEC Preferences – Greece.
812	EEC Preferences – Turkey.
813, 813A, 813B	EEC Preferences – Israel.
817	EEC Preferences – Tunisia.
818	EEC Preferences – Egypt.
819	EEC Preferences – Cyprus.
820, 820A	EEC Preferences – Lebanon.
821	EEC Preferences – simplified procedure for sending evidence to EEC customers about the origin of goods.
825	The ACP/EEC Convention of Lomé: tariff preferences.
830	Arrangements beween Denmark and United Kingdom.

Patents endorsed 'Licences of Right'

Under Section 35 of the Patents Act 1949 the following patents were endorsed 'Licences of Right' on the dates specified.

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
9 February 1976		
1,207,297	United States Energy Research and Development Administration	Improvements in rotary-piston steam engines
1,211,813	United States Energy Research and Development Administration	Improvements in rotary-piston engines
1,244,559	United States Energy Research and Development Administration	Implantable circulatory support system
1,261,852	United States Energy Research and Development Administration	Production of metal resistant to neutron irradiation
1,293,116	United States Energy Research and Development Administration	High temperature braze heat treatment for precipitation hardening martensitic stainless steels
1,305,882	United States Energy Research and Development Administration	Apparatus for dimensional inspection of tubing
1,334,335	United States Energy Research and Development Administration	Airborne isokinetic sampler
1,335,127	United States Energy Research and Development Administration	Method for increasing the carbon yield of resins and reducing the porosity of carbon composites
1,350,175	United States Energy Research and Development Administration	Solvent extraction process for producing PuO_2 sols
1,295,543	James Anderson	Improvements in or relating to building large floatable structures
1,295,544	James Anderson	A template for use in building large floatable structures
1,207,200	Coal Industry (Patents) Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to mining machines
1,239,231	Coal Industry (Patents) Ltd.	Radio frequency communication systems.
931 356	Dunsley Heating Appliance Co. Ltd.	Improvements in or relating to water heating appliances
1,025,765	George Russell Wittenberg	Work supporting means for centerless grinders
1,160,047	E. L. Caldwell and Sons Inc.	Tractor-drawn mowing machine.
1,169,612	International Standard Electric Corporation	Ground station receivers
1,305,276	Albin Tingbo	Knowledge imparting and testing means
1,373,628	Joseph Raymond Stones	An improved conduit
11 February 1976		
929,294	The Deritend Engineering Co. Ltd.	Apparatus for the treatment of cardboard and the like for the manufacture of cardboard boxes or containers.
938,500	The Deritend Engineering Co. Ltd.	Improved suction feed mechanism for cardboard and like blanks
1,017,955	The Deritend Engineering Co. Ltd.	Improvements relating to mechanism for stacking and spacing blanks of carbdoard and the like.
1,039,530	The Deritend Engineering Co. Ltd.	Improvements relating to apparatus for the creasing and/or cutting and/or scoring, together with printing of cardboard and the like.
1,042,984	The Deritend Engineering Co. Ltd.	Improvements relating to apparatus for use in the manufacture of boxes and the like
1,048,301	The Deritend Engineering Co. Ltd.	Apparatus for the treatment of cardboard and the like
1,075,922	The Deritend Engineering Co. Ltd.	Improvements relating to apparatus for cutting board and the like
1,081,402	The Deritend Engineering Co. Ltd.	Improvements relating to Oldham couplings
1,092,553	The Deritend Engineering Co. Ltd.	Improvements relating to apparatus for treating board

continued on next page

A customer demonstrates how easy it is to use a British built on-line self-service banking terminal of the type which has been ordered by 'Gemeentegiro', the Amsterdam municipal giro system. 'Gemeentegiro', the first financial institution in the Netherlands to use such terminals, has ordered eight NCR 770 self-service financial terminals from The National Cash Register Company Ltd., which will be installed in its offices in and around Amsterdam. The eight terminals are to be built at the company's Dundee factory in Scotland, and it is expected delivery will take place in April.

British Labour Statistics: Historical Abstracts 1886–1968

This unique standard work of reference brings together all the main series of official statistics compiled by the Department of Employment and its predecessers since 1886, plus some for even earlier years. It contains 389 pages of tables and 50 pages of text and the subjects covered are wage rates, earnings, hours of work, retail prices, employment, unemployment, vacancies, family expenditure, industrial accidents, and disputes, membership of trade unions, labour costs and output per head. This will be a most valuable source-book for everyone concerned with the study and formulation of economic policies. **£7** (by post £7.30)

Also available
British Labour Statistics: Year book 1972 **£9** (by post £9.30)

Government publications can be bought from the Government Bookshops in London (post orders to PO Box 569, SE1 9NH). Edinburgh, Cardiff, Belfast, Manchester, Birmingham and Bristol, or through booksellers

HMSO BOOKS

Number	Grantee	Subject-matter
1,096,414	The Deritend Engineering Co. Ltd.	Improvements relating to apparatus for treating blanks or webs of material for example, for cutting, creasing, scoring, printing
1,110,563	The Deritend Engineering Co. Ltd.	Improvements relating to apparatus for the cutting and creasing of cardboard.
1,145,739	The Deritend Engineering Co. Ltd.	Apparatus for treating board, plastics, or other sheet material
1,291,590	The Deritend Engineering Co. Ltd.	Improvements relating to dies or formes for the rotary die-cutting of blanks
1,299,774	The Deritend Engineering Co. Ltd.	Improvements relating to rotary die-cutting of cardboard and like materials
1,406,251	The Deritend Engineering Co. Ltd.	Improvements relating to feeders for sheet material
1,287,841	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	A method of and apparatus for subjecting a test piece to tensile stress.
1,289,078	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	A reactor vessel supporting device.
1,290,389	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	Method of non-destructive eddy-current testing of electrically conductive tubes and corresponding apparatus
1,300,159	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	Improvements in and relating to ultrasonic devices for use in measuring temperature
1,300,160	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	Improvements in and relating to ultrasonic devices for use in measuring displacements
1,302,098	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	Improvements in and relating to a handling grab.
1,307,378	Commissariat A L'Energie Atomique	Improvements in and relating to discharge outlet structures for rotary melting furnaces.
1,288,498	Machinenfabrik Oerlikon	Improvements in or relating to electrical connecting leads.
1,293,501	Machinenfabrik Oerlkion	A superconductor and a method of producing a superconductor
1,296,559	Machinenfabrik Oerlikon	Improvements in or relating to superconductors
1,344,366	Machinenfabrik Oerlikon	Superconducting coil
1,331,213	BBC Brown Boveri and Co. Ltd. formerly known as Brown, Boveri and Co. Ltd.	Improvements in and relating to coil windings
1,389,675	BBC Brown Boveri and Co. Ltd. formerly known as Brown, Boveri and Co. Ltd.	Insulated electrical conductor.
1,133,217	Societe Anonyme Automobiles Citroen	Improvements in or relating to recuperative plate heat-exchangers
1,212,764	Rolls Royce Motors Ltd.	Vehicle with braking system employing apparatus for indicating changes in angular velocity
12 February 1976		
1,052,436	Nippon Columbia Kabushikikaisha	Colour television signal generating system
1,074,805	Nippon Columbia Kabushikikaisha	Colour video signal generating apparatus
1,074,806	Nippon Columbia Kabushikikaisha	An optical filter for colour video generating apparatus
1,160,231	Nippon Columbia Kabushikikaisha	Method of producing colour video signals for use in a colour television receiver
1,160,232	Nippon Columbia Kabushikikaisha	Colour video signal generating device
1,163,080	Nippon Columbia Kabushikikaisha	Colour video signal generating device.
1,020,214	Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co. Ltd.	Improvements relating to control systems for electric motors
1,025,871	Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co. Ltd.	Improvements relating to the control of electric motors
1,060,215	Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co. Ltd.	Improvements relating to Current Control circuits
1,277,474	Westinghouse Brake and Signal Co. Ltd.	Proving for vehicle wheel spin or slide correction apparatus
1,033,674	Battelle Memorial Institute	Improvements relating to inhaling devices
1,083,761	Battelle Memorial Institute	Improvements relating to inhaling and smoking devices
1,184,809	Coal Industry (Patents) Ltd.	Mineral cutting machines
1,284,986	Societe Industrielle DE'lectro – Metallurgie	Improvements in or relating to cutting tools

Any person who claims that the patentee at the time of endorsement of any of the above patents was precluded by a contract in which claimant is interested from granting licences under the patents may apply for cancellation of the endorsement on Patents Form No. 54 within two months after the date of endorsement.

E. Armitage
Comptroller

Knitwear in the Price Check Scheme

It was confirmed in Parliament on 23 February that only certain lines of Scottish knitwear are included in the Price Check Scheme.

In reply to a written question from George Reid, MP (Clackmannan and East Stirlingshire) Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said, 'With my Rt. Hon. Friend the Secretary of State for Industry, I consulted both the Knitting Industries Federation and the Scottish Knitwear Council. Both bodies emphasised the cost increases their members face over the next six months including raw material costs. While the Knitting Industries Federation was unable to recommend its members to make a contribution to the scheme, the Scottish Knitwear Council has recommended its members to include in it lines of their own choosing.

'I understand the difficulties of the industry's trading position, and I am grateful to the Scottish Knitwear Council for their co-operation in including some lines of knitwear in the scheme.'

New committee to review employment prospects in offshore oil industry

Employment continuity in the UK offshore industry will be the chief concern of a committee, consisting of representatives of unions and management in the industry and the Government, which met for the first time on Wednesday under the chairmanship of John Smith, Minister of State, Department of Energy.

The committee will consider the problems of the UK offshore industry with particular regard to the desirability of securing continuity of employment within the industry. The committee is expected to give its early attention to the problems arising from the hiatus in oil platform ordering.

The membership of the committee is John Smith, Minister of State for Energy (chairman), G. Williams, director general, United Kingdom Offshore Operators Association Ltd.; W. E. Bell, president, United Kingdom Offshore Operators Association Ltd.; P. Cole, director, John Howard and Co. Ltd., representing the Federation of Civil Engineering Contractors; J. C. A. Crawford, Motherwell Bridge Engineering, representing the Process Plant Association and British Constructional Steelwork Association Ltd.; A. Muir, RDL (North Sea) representing the Jacket Club (Steel platform manufacturers); J. Milne, general secretary, Scottish Trades Union Congress; J. Hanna, Trades Union Congress; J. Baldwin, general secretary, AUEW (Construction); T. McCalmont, construction trades co-ordinating officer, TGWU; G. Laird, executive council,AUEW (Engineering); J. P. Gibson, director general, Offshore Supplies Office, Department of Energy; Dr. R. G. L. McCrone, Scottish Office; F. C. Hayes, Training Services Agency, nominated by the Manpower Services Commission; and A. D. Reddrop, National Economic Development Office.

Patent Office publications for industry

The Patent Office offers industry a wide range of publications. These include the Official Journal (Patents), the Trade Marks Journal, British Patent Specifications, Illustrated Abridgements of Patent Specifications, Reports of Patent, Design and Trade Mark Cases, and 50-year subject matter file lists of British Patent Specifications. Details of these and other publications may be obtained by post from Sale Branch, the Patent Office, Orpington, Kent, BR5 3RD or by personal application at the Public Sale Counter of the Patent Office, 25 Southampton Buildings, London, WC2.

Public expenditure to 1979-80

The White Paper setting out the Government's plans for public expenditure until the end of the decade was published on 19 February (Cmnd. 6396 HMSO, £1.80 net).

Part 1 of the White Paper sets out the strategic aims of the Government in reaching decisions on the level of public expenditure. In particular the plans take account of the economic situation as it is now and the movement out of the recession after 1976-77. In the current year and in 1976-77 the level of public spending reflects the need to avoid increasing unemployment; to prepare industry and the work force for the future upturn in the economy by sustaining firms, by encouraging stockbuilding and by emphasis on training and retraining. During these years public expenditure is inevitably an unprecedently high proportion of annual output.

For years after 1976-77 the Government has had to ensure that as the recession ends there will be adequate manpower and capital resources available for manufacturing industry to meet overseas and home demand. The White Paper shows that during this later period public expenditure programmes have been reduced to ensure this diversion of resources and attainment of the economic growth which is a prerequisite of high standards of living.

Table 1.1 shows, on different growth assumptions, how increases in resources might be applied to various competing claims. Personal consumption is shown to grow by between 0.8 per cent and 2.2 per cent per year, on average, depending on the growth of output. Except in the low growth case privately financed personal consumption is shown to grow at the same or a higher rate than publicly financed personal consumption. Total public expenditure is shown to increase in each case by an average annual rate of 1 per cent which is significantly less than the growth rate of output. This reflects the need to put more resources into investment and the balance of payments.

Public expenditure consists of both direct expenditure on goods and services and also transfer payments and net lending to the private sector (indirect expenditure). Tables 1.2 and 1.3 (this page) show that the annual percentage increase from 1976-77 to 1979-80 is minus 1.0 per cent for expenditure on goods and services and minus 0.6 per cent for public transfer payments etc. The changes in programmes since the last White Paper was published (Cmnd. 5879) are set out in Table 4.6 on page 141 (annexed here). The majority of programmes have been reduced compared with Cmnd. 5879 (by a total of nearly £3,000 million) in 1978-79. But substantial additions have been made to the trade, industry and employment programme because of the need to ensure higher national output and efficiency. There are also additions to the social security programmes and to the "other public services" programme. Planned expenditure on overseas aid has been maintained.

Part 2 of the White Paper includes chapters on individual programmes. The presentation largely follows that in previous White Papers and takes account of suggestions made in the past by the Select Committee on Expenditure. There is for the first time a chapter on debt interest. This explains the substantial increases in provision since last year's White Paper and the factors which determine the level of provision. This year the tables analysing expenditure in Scotland and Wales and local authority expenditure are concentrated in a separate part (Part 3). Additional statistics are included in Part 4.

TABLE 1.2 Public expenditure on goods and services: investment and consumption 1974-75, 1976-77 and 1979-80

£ million at 1975 Survey prices

	1974-75	1976-77	1979-80
1 Defence	4,318	4,571	4,527
2 Overseas aid and other overseas services	200	220	216
3 Agriculture, fisheries and forestry	138	145	143
4 Trade, industry and employment	472	518	519
5 Nationalised industries' capital expenditure	2,813	3,154	3,040
6 Roads and transport	1,555	1,573	1,348
7 Housing	2,171	2,000	1,804
8 Other environmental services	2,033	2,011	1,940
9 Law, order and protective services	1,325	1,450	1,417
10 Education and libraries, science and arts	5,010	5,069	4,827
11 Health and personal social services	5,020	5,292	5,522
12 Social security	373	424	393
13 Other public services	601	661	663
14. Common services	606	678	739
15 Northern Ireland	602	723	676
Civil service staff costs			*−130**
Total**	27,237	28,489	27,644
Average annual percentage increase to 1979-80	0.3	−1.0	

* Consequential of the £140 million saving in 1978-79 referred to in paragraph 32.
** Excluding any use of the contingency reserve, and before making the general deduction for shortfall.

TABLE 1.3 Public transfer payments: grants, subsidies, loans, interest 1974-75, 1976-77 and 1979-80

£ million at 1975 Survey prices

	1974-75	1976-77	1979-80
1 Defence	13	15	14
2 Overseas aid and other overseas services	598	662	869
3 Agriculture, fisheries and forestry	1,330	842	469
4 Trade, industry and employment	2,393	1,754	1,595
5 Nationalised industries' capital expenditure	9	−104	−133
6 Roads and transport	626	620	504
7 Housing	2,258	2,097	2,286
8 Other environmental services	55	34	41
9 Law, order and protective services	14	20	21
10 Education and libraries, science and arts	1,094	1,165	1,168
11 Health and personal social services	36	25	26
12 Social security	8,209	9,578	9,570
13 Other public services	27	25	16
14 Common services	—	—	—
15 Northern Ireland	598	613	582
Total programmes*	17,260	17,346	17,028
Debt interest	4,757	6,200	7,500
Total	22,017	23,546	24,528
Average annual percentage increase to 1970-80 (excluding debt interest and investment grants)	−0.2	−0.6	

* Excluding any use of the contingency reserve, and before making the general deduction for shortfall.

TABLE 4.6 Total changes to expenditure programmes (excluding contingency reserve, shortfall and debt interest) since Cmnd. 5879

£ million at 1975 Survey prices

	1978-79	
Defence		−198
Overseas aid and other overseas services		−63
Agriculture, fisheries and forestry		−205
Trade, industry and employment	+492	
Nationalised industries' capital expenditure		−324
Roads and transport		−506
Housing		−365
Other environmental services		−224
Law, order and protective services		−110
Education and libraries, science and arts		−618
Health and personal social services		−152
Social security	+39	
Other public services	+54	
Common services		−49
Northern Ireland		−45
Civil service staff costs		−140
	+585	−2,999

Fidelity Life Assurance interim payments

The Official Receiver and Provisional Liquidator reports that interim payments to certain policyholders of Fidelity Life Assurance Ltd., will be made soon.

They will be restricted to 70 per cent of the amounts due in respect of:

1 Annuities payable on Secure Income Bonds and Extra High Income Bonds;

2 Amounts payable to policyholders who elected before 28 July 1975 to make automatic withdrawals under unit-linked policies, and

3 Claims arising under policies on maturity or on the death of the insured.

This has been possible through the provision by the Policyholders Protection Board of an indemnity to the company to enable this interim distribution to be made.

The Court has approved the arrangements and an explanatory letter, setting out the terms and basis on which the payments can be made, will be sent shortly to policyholders by the special manager, Donald Chilvers, of Coopers and Lybrand.

Notes

This is the first use of the provisions of the Policyholders Protection Act 1975 which came into force on 12 November and which enables interim distributions to be made.

A petition for the compulsory winding up of Fidelity Life Assurance Ltd. was presented to the High Court by Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade on 28 July. On the same day, the Official Receiver was appointed Provisional Liquidator of the company. On 29 July, Mr. Chilvers, a partner in Coopers and Lybrand, was appointed as special manager to assist the Official Receiver, and he wrote to policyholders on 15 September to explain the current position of the company and in connection with the continued payment of premiums.

Clearance of merger proposals

Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection has decided, on the information at present before her, not to refer the proposed merger of Alexander Howden Group Ltd. and Morice Tozer and Beck (Holdings) Ltd. to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission under the provisions of the Fair Trading Act 1973.

Manufacturing investment: Shirley Williams addresses Finance Houses Association

'It is vital that we do all we can to improve the basic investment climate,' Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection told the annual dinner of the Finance Houses Association at the Savoy Hotel on 17 February.

'If we are to overcome our bottlenecks and to have the capacity to meet both export and domestic demand in the years ahead, it is vital for industry to bring forward its investment plans rather than hold back when this might be too late.

'To say we must invest more is not any the less true because it has often been said before. The facts speak for themselves. In 1975 there was a fall in real terms in manufacturing investment of 13 per cent. The expected fall this year by a further 5 to 8 per cent means that both the peak of the investment cycle in 1974 and the trough in 1976 will be lower than the previous peak and trough. If the forecasts are correct, then net investment by manufacturing industry this year may well be lower absolutely than 20 years ago.

'If we are to export more and to restore our balance of payments equilibrium, there must be a substantial rise in manufactured industry; we must halt the progressive erosion of the UK manufacturing base. Manufactures now account for over 80 per cent by value of our visible exports and about 60 per cent of total exports. Manufactures and semi-manufactures make up over half of visible imports or over 40 per cent of total imports.

'There are several ways in which this rise in manufacturing can be achieved. More investment is one; there is also separate and related room for significant increases in output per head in our manufacturing industries. It will also be an important aspect of Government policy to ensure that the services sector, including the public services, does not attract additional employment to such an extent that the manufacturing sector is short of essential manpower. We cannot afford to be short of skilled manpower in industry when the next upturn comes.

'Here I would suggest that the Finance Houses have a part to play. Their use of labour is as crucial as it is in manufacturing. As industrial activity rises, jobs in the commercial services sector – of which the finance industry is an important part – will increase again. Generous pay and easy conditions can attract labour to the services sector, out of exporting manufacture. The more economical and tighter control there is in the use of labour the better the effect will be on the labour available for the manufacture of exports. The efficient use of labour is a must for all industries – and the finance industry is no different from any other industry.

'Whatever the Government does, industry too has to take crucial decisions. The finance industry has a major part to play in these decisions. Is the response to investment inquiries vigorous and adventurous enough? Is the response directed towards manufacturing investment? Is the balance between consumer and industrial finance correct?

'Credit is an important industry and it has a serious role. It plays an important part in improving living standards, in helping to sell the products of industries producing expensive goods and is now an important part of modern life. But like many other facets of modern life, over-indulgence can be harmful. The over-extension of credit and the easy granting of credit can lead to people over-committing themselves – and asking for higher wages to cope; to excessive production for the home market of goods – and services; to people thinking that they can always cope with higher prices by taking out credit. To see here some of the classic components of inflation would be correct. The industry must examine its role not just from the help it can give to industry but also for the boost uncontrolled credit can give to inflation.

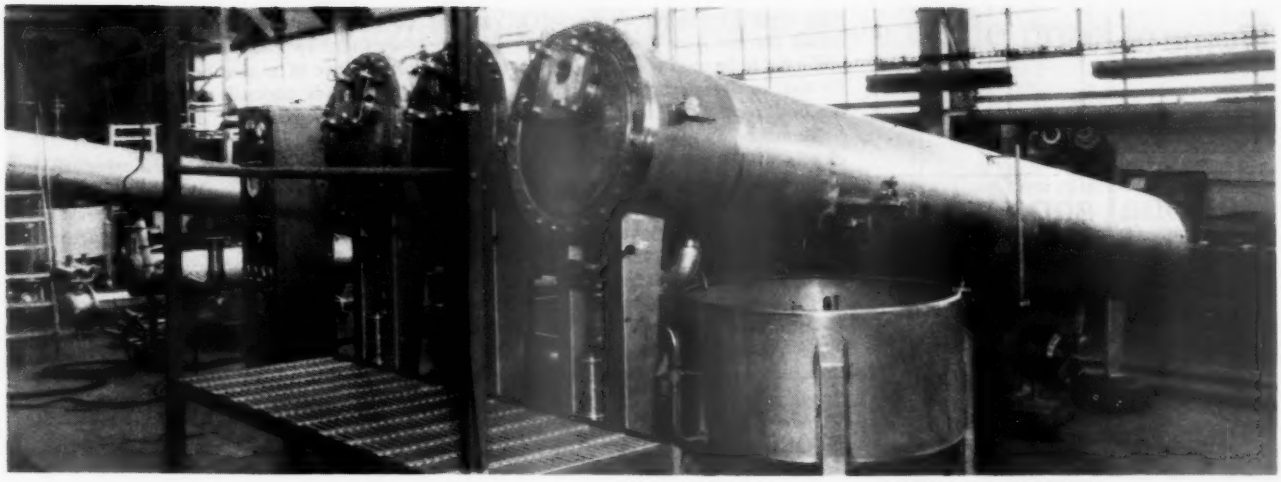
'It may be that we will all have to change some traditional attitudes.

'The industrialists' confidence depends crucially on the response of his workforce. What positive motivation is the employee offered? Despite many years of service he is often treated as an outsider; he is rarely informed or consulted about the overall objectives and performance of his company or about the distribution and share of profits; yet when it comes to loss or bankruptcy, it is the employee who is expected to bear the brunt. We have a long way to go to make the employee feel a member of his enterprise, committed to its success as much as the management and financial institutions. To win this commitment, it is essential for us to move fast on extending employee participation and providing a new positive motivation to all who work in industry.

'Another attitude that will need to be changed is of those in business who have felt their activities could be confined to a home market. Our EEC membership has effectively redefined the term "home market" and some re-thinking has to be done. For example our own Consumer Credit Act is already influencing the thinking of the EEC and its forthcoming Directive on consumer credit – and indeed the thinking of some individual EEC governments. As the consumer finance industry in Europe becomes larger and more sophisticated does not this give us an opportunity and incentive to expand into Europe and to sell our expertise to Europe?

'A changed attitude towards the finance industry might also be one benefit of the Consumer Credit Act. Licensing has just started and, over the next two years, we should see not only licensing completed but the regulations under the Act being made effective and a change taking place in the credit industry that should be beneficial to the industry as well as to the consumer.

'That last statement may cause surprise. The benefits of consumer protection to the consumer are obvious. But there is also a benefit to industry and one that is often disregarded. The bad image that just one company generates, reflects on the industry as a whole. As John Donne might have said, no



Platt Longclose, the Leeds based dyeing machinery manufacturers of Platt Saco Lowell Ltd., claim a considerable advance in jet dyeing technology with the development of their Ventura Sprint. A new arrangement in the area of the jet nozzle enables liquor ratios to be reduced below 8 :1 with the jet fully submerged. Fabric speeds of up to 450m per minute can be achieved giving considerably increased loading, particularly on lightweight fabrics. Platt Longclose say that extremely rapid rates of heating and cooling result in significant savings in power, water consumption and effluent. Dyeing process times as low as 60 minutes have been satisfactorily achieved on polyester fabrics. Picture shows a three-tube Ventura Sprint jet dyeing machine during manufacture.

company is an island, entire of itself, every company is a piece of the industry. Any effect that the Consumer Credit Act might have in the future towards setting minimum standards of behaviour and business ethics, and in driving out the few errant members of the industry, can only be to the good of all. After all, a satisfied, justly treated, customer is a returning customer.

Petrol prices

The results of an inter-departmental inquiry into the present situation in petrol prices were given on 18 February in the House of Commons.

Answering a Parliamentary question from John Cartwright (Greenwich Woolwich East), Alan Williams, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, said:

'I am very disturbed at the way in which information about petrol prices is being displayed at many garages. At the worst much of it is confusing, and many signs are ambiguous. I would like the petrol retail outlets to adopt a practice of displaying in a way clearly visible to the approaching motorist the price which he will pay when the petrol is in his tank. I have raised this question with the Director General of Fair Trading. He has now arranged for his office to have a meeting tomorrow with retailers' organisations and the major oil companies to examine the problem. This will give the industry a chance to put its own house in order.

'I hope that the deficiencies to which I have referred will be remedied as a result. If not, I shall have to consider other possibilities including the use of legislation.

'I have also been considering with colleagues in the Departments of Energy and Industry other matters relating to petrol prices about which concern has been expressed. The first is the contention that there is discrimination against certain dealers who do not receive from their suppliers the price reductions available to others. In the discussions with officials of my department, and the Departments of Energy and Industry, the oil companies said that they stepped in with price reductions where, as a result of reduced demand and intensive competition among local retailers, one of their outlets was in difficulties. They did not reduce the wholesale price where demand and throughput were holding up reasonably well. There is clearly a question of public interest here and spokesmen for retailers asked for an investigation by the Monopolies and Mergers Commission. They have now welcomed the reference which the Director General of Fair Trading announced on 2 February.

'It has also been alleged that price competition is driving some petrol retailers out of business. Inquiries made by officials suggest the rate of closures in 1975 was broadly in line with the rate of previous years. Throughout the industry there is no dispute with the conclusion reached by the Price Commission in its report last year on motor fuel retailers' margins, which was that today's circumstances demand a smaller distributive network, concentrated into larger units. Subject to what I have said about the reference to the Monopolies and Mergers Commission, my colleagues and I see in the present situation no justification for us to take steps to preserve petrol outlets which motorists show by their buying habits they do not want to use.

'Concern has been expressed about petrol stations in rural or outlying areas. The signs are, however, that petrol stations in outlying areas are not made vulnerable by being away from a main population centre. The Price Commission found that rural retailers achieved a higher net margin than suburban and city centre retailers, and that rural retailers had significantly lower operating costs.

'Another complaint is that substantial price reductions are localised and are not available to all motorists equally – for example to some motorists in the south east. Part of the reason for this is that certain types of petrol outlets, such as hypermarkets and chains of independent dealers with an established "cut-price" policy, are rarer in the south than elsewhere.

'If the oil companies has applied a general reduction in the wholesale price, the effect, given local differences in the effective pressure of demand and in the pressure of competition, would have been to establish a marginally lower price level from which price-cutting would have begun again. I note also that while price-cutting typically and historically begins in the midlands and the north, it then tends to ripple out. At least two of the major oil companies, as well as others, are now reducing wholesale prices at outlets in many parts of the country. There are, of course, unlikely to be the same reductions where either demand remains relatively strong, or local competition is less marked, and dealers prefer to sell at full price and margin.

'It has been suggested that the government should establish a minimum price in order to protect retailers, or a maximum price to provide more uniformity among outlets, or both. Insofar as any of these would dampen down price competition, my colleagues and I consider that no further price regulation is required beyond the provisions of the Price Code. When I met the Motor Agents' Association and the Petrol Retailers' Association on 4 February it was clear that there was no agreement between their views about the need for further government action. However, the body representing the larger number of retailers said that they would not welcome government intervention to determine maximum or minimum prices.

'I have put in the Library copies of a summary of the report prepared by officials of the three departments concerned following their discussions with oil companies and retailers.'

A summary of the report of the inquiry is to be published by HM Stationery Office and should be available in about two weeks' time.

National shoe repair code launched

A shoe repair code has been introduced following discussions between the footwear industry and the Office of Fair Trading. The National Association of Shoe Repair Factories and the St. Crispin's Boot Trades Association have launched a joint code for shoe repairs. Members of the two associations account for about 85 per cent of all shoe repairs undertaken between 60 and 70 million a year.

Welcoming the code, John Methven, Director General of Fair Trading, said 'I am very encouraged by the positive approach which has been adopted by these two trade associations after I circulated draft proposals for a code for the whole footwear industry in March 1975. They have seized the opportunity to set out clearly and in detail the principles on which their members trade. Customers cannot fail to benefit from the maintenance of the high standards, the code requires. I hope the production of this code augurs well for the talks that I am currently having with the manufacturers, distributors and retailers of footwear.'

Mr. Methven said he was particularly pleased to see in the code provisions requiring both the display of a current price list showing the cost of the main repair services offered including VAT and the production of a ticket for every customer showing the cost of the repair and the estimated date for collection. This extra price information would enable the public to obtain the best value for money.

The code makes it clear that the members of both associations will not in future attempt to limit their legal liability for the repairs they carry out. Mr. Methven commented 'I welcome the positive action of the two associations in advance of legislation to implement the proposals of the Law Commission report on exemption clauses.' Other provisions of the code cover advertising, claims such as 'express repair service' and 'two-hour repair service' will have to be used with caution and training for staff in all aspects of their business including both repairs and merchandise.

Members of the associations will co-operate closely with local consumer advisers such as Trading Standards Officers, Consumer Advice Centres, and Citizens' Advice Bureaux in an endeavour to resolve any dispute. In those cases where, even after conciliation, a dispute cannot be resolved the code makes provision for the association to obtain a free independent test report, copies of which will be made available to all parties concerned and members will honour all findings favourable to the customer. The associations will monitor the compliance of its members with the code and will publish annually an analysis of all the complaints received and the subsequent action taken.

The industry is aware of the relatively low level of repairs at 60-70 million when compared with the annual sale of footwear around the 200 million mark. This fact is attributed largely to the lack of consumer information regarding the benefits of regular shoe maintenance. To remedy this situation an information campaign is being linked with the introduction of the code.

Licensing under the Consumer Credit Act 1974: procedural rules

Certain procedural aspects of the licensing system are dealt with in the Consumer Credit Licensing (Representations) Order 1976*, published on 19 February.

Before the Director General of Fair Trading may refuse, renew, vary, suspend or revoke a licence under the Consumer Credit Act 1974, he is required by the Act to tell the person affected of his provisional view, giving his reasons, and to invite him to make representations. The order specifies that where the person affected wishes to make oral representations, he must receive at least 21 days' notice of the hearing. It also allows the person affected to be represented at the hearing by any other person (including, for example, a solicitor).

Where the Director General gives an adverse decision, he must give to the person affected his reasons and the findings of fact upon which he relies, and tell him of his right to appeal to the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

The order has been made under Section 2(1)(b) of the Consumer Credit Act 1974, which empowers the Secretary of State to regulate the carrying out by the Director General of Fair Trading of his functions under the Act. The Director General is responsible for administering the licensing system being set up under the Act.

Under the Consumer Credit Act 1974 (Commencement No. 1) Order 1975 (SI No. 2123), it will be an offence to carry on any of the following categories of business without a licence from 3 August 1976:

debt-adjusting;
debt-counselling;
debt-collecting;
operating a credit reference agency.

Applications should be made by 31 May 1976. Those who will or may require a licence should write to:

Consumer Credit Licensing Branch,
Office of Fair Trading,
Government Buildings,
Bromyard Avenue,
Acton W3 7BB.

The dates from which licences will be required to carry on consumer credit businesses or consumer hire businesses (provisionally 1 April 1977) and credit brokerage businesses (provisionally 1 December 1977) will be appointed in later Orders.

The order was made after consultation with the Council on Tribunals, under whose supervision the Act places the adjudicating functions of the Director General.

* The Consumer Credit Licensing (Representations) Order is SI 1976/191. Copies may be obtained from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, 49 High Holborn, London WC1V 6HB and branches or through booksellers, price 12p, or by post from HM Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, price 18½p.

Deputy Chief Inspector of Weights and Measures

Applications are invited for the above appointment from persons holding the Board of Trade Certificate of Qualification.
Salary within Principal Officers Grade £4,689—£5,250 plus £261 p.a. London Weighting Allowance.
Further particulars and application form obtainable from J. J. Warren, Chief Executive, Town Hall, London, E6 2RP. (Tel: 01-472 1430 Ext. 301)
Closing date 15.3.76.

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New registration regulations under restrictive trade practices legislation

John Methven, Director General of Fair Trading, has made new regulations* relating to the registration of restrictive trading agreements. They were laid before Parliament and published on 19 February.

The main purpose of the new regulations is to make provision for the registration of agreements relating to services. In addition, they replace the existing regulations† affecting goods which have been consolidated with the new regulations, which now apply to both goods and services.

The regulations come into force on 22 March. They deal with the requirements for providing particulars of restrictive trading agreements to the Director General. For example, the number of copies of any agreement or memorandum of an agreement to be provided is reduced from four to three and it becomes unnecessary to send names and addresses of persons party to agreements as members of trade associations where these exceed 100 (instead of 200 as previously). The regulations also deal with arrangements for keeping the register of restrictive agreements.

Notes

The Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection has made an Order‡ extending the restrictive practices legislation to restrictive agreements affecting the supply or acquisition of virtually all commercial services. This Order comes into operation on 22 March. Under it, particulars of existing restrictive agreements (or recommendations by trade associations) must be sent in to the Office of Fair Trading for registration by 21 June unless they are abandoned by that date. Otherwise it becomes unlawful to give effect to their restrictions.

Under the Restrictive Trade Practices Acts the Director General has the power to make regulations of this kind and lay them before Parliament.

Copies of the regulations are available from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, price 22p.

The Office of Fair Trading proposes to issue a guide to the registration of agreements and recommendations relating to services early next month.

* The Registration of Restrictive Trading Agreements Regulations 1976 (Statutory Instrument No. 1976/183).
† The Registration of Restrictive Trading Agreements Regulations 1968 (Statutory Instrument No. 1968/1755).
‡ The Restrictive Trade Practices (Services) Order 1976 (Statutory Instrument No. 1976/98)

Fewer rogue ships in the Strait of Dover – Coastguard reports

The number of 'rogue' ships in the Dover Strait decreased by nearly 50 per cent during 1975. Figures reported by HM Coastguard at St. Margaret's Bay Operations Centre to the Anglo-French Safety of Navigation Group show a fall in the number of contraventions of the Separation Scheme by vessels passing through the Straits from 2,123 in 1974 to 1,126 in 1975.

There was also a fall of about 25 per cent in the number of contraventions by vessels crossing the lanes (9,563 in 1974 to 7,617 in 1975).

Extended coverage

The Anglo-French Safety of Navigation Group has now decided to extend its coverage to the whole of the English Channel, and to study common problems of search and rescue, and pollution clearance plans and operations of the two administrations. Hitherto, the group has concentrated attention on the surveillance of marine traffic and broadcasts of safety information to ships in the Dover Strait.

Two further developments the group have in prospect are:

Plans to hold a pollution exercise in the Channel involving the maritime services of both countries.

Radar surveillance of the Channel will be increased when a new radar mounted on top of the Dungeness nuclear power station comes into operation this summer.

Terms of reference

The wider terms of reference of the group are:

To improve the safety of navigation and minimise the effects of maritime accidents in the Channel and the Dover Strait;

to this end to review the studies undertaken in France and Great Britain and commission as necessary additional studies by technical sub-groups or other means relating to maritime traffic, maritime accidents, search and rescue, and pollution clearance,

to formulate proposals on the arrangements to be made regarding traffic separation in the Channel and the Dover Strait and for the development of the navigation information and surveillance service in the Channel, and also on the procedures for intervention and the means to be employed in search and rescue and pollution clearance in the event of a maritime casualty,

in all these matters to promote the closest co-ordination possible of the arrangements made and the operations carried out by the Authorities of the countries concerned.

New sub-group

There will also be a new technical sub-group which will hold early meetings to deal with these topics in their wider terms of reference and study the lessons of the pollution incident in the Dover Strait which followed the collision between HMS *Achilles* and the tanker *Olympic Alliance* on 12 November 1975.

The Anglo-French Safety of Navigation Group consists of representatives of Marine Division of the Department of Trade, Ministry of Defence and Trinity House and their opposite numbers in the French administration.

Stanley Clinton Davis, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Companies, Aviation and Shipping, visited Paris last December for talks with M. Marcel Cavaille, the French Minister of Transport, covering the future development of safety in the Channel.

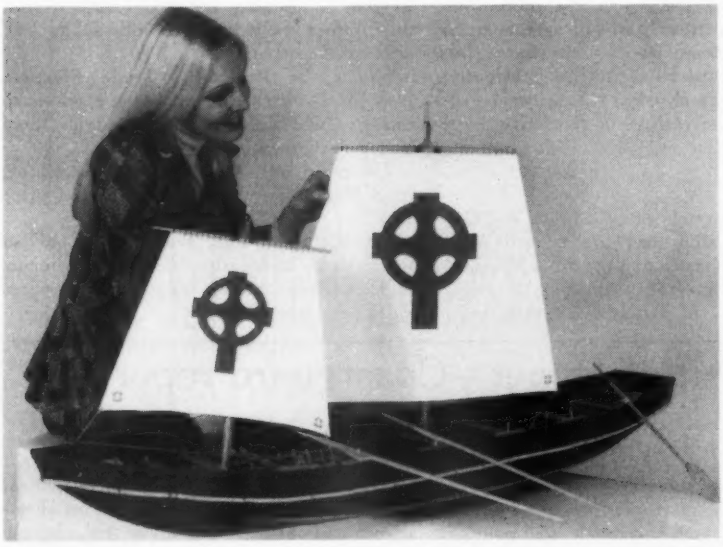
Small Firms Information Centres

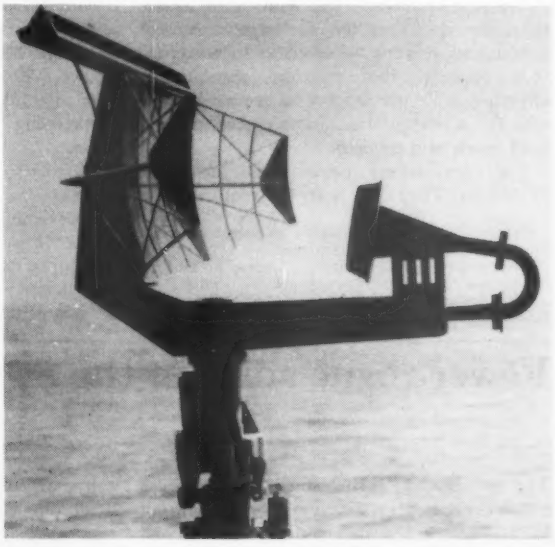
Centre	Telephone	Freefone area	Freefone	Telex
Birmingham	021-643 3344	West Midlands	4054	337919
Bristol	294546	South West	9910	449650
Cardiff	396116	Wales	1208	497515
Glasgow	041-248 6014	Scotland	846	779334
Leeds	445151	Yorks/Humberside	5361	557687
London	01-828 2384	London & South East	2079	917920
Luton	29215	Eastern	372	826115
Manchester	061-832 5282	North Western	6005	667952
Newcastle	25353	Northern	529	537429
Nottingham	49791	East Midlands	4062	377313

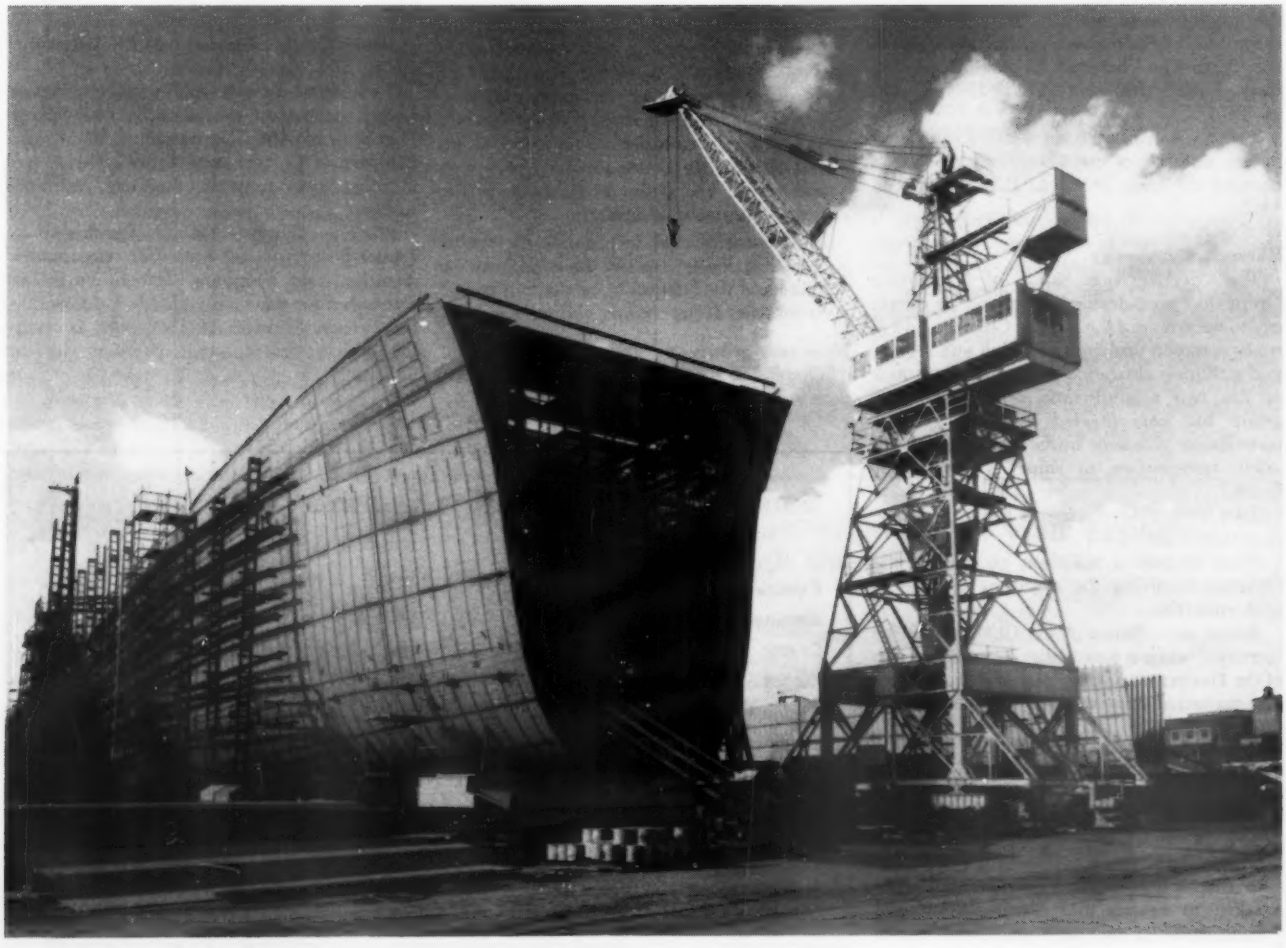
Developments at sea – real and simulated

Left : This model is made of British leather the same as its 'big brother', the 36-foot Brendan boat which will be setting sail for the United States in May to 'prove' that America was discovered in the eighth century. The design of the Brendan is based on 8th century sea-going skin vessels and contemporary references to leather covered boats. The sails are of leather and the hull of dressed oak bark tanned leather stretched over a wooden frame.

Right : This Plessey AWS-5 tactical radar installation has been chosen as the main surveillance radar for new corvettes of the Royal Danish Navy. The AWS-5 has a lightweight stabilised antenna and a high performance transmitter-receiver, making extensive use of digital techniques. The driven amplifier transmitter radiates through an antenna of novel design to achieve the long range needed for air search.







Opposite page, bottom : Britain's world-beating cargo ships – the SD 14 (Standard Design 14,000 tons) – take shape in a Sunderland shipyard. Since this highly successful vessel's introduction about 10 years ago, more than 180 have been ordered to be built in Britain or under licence in Greece, Brazil and Argentina. The company, Austin and Pickersgill, has orders for 27 SD 14s, worth more than £1,000 million.

A million gallons of crystal-clear water and this huge rotating test-bed are being used in Britain to carry out research into the behaviour of vehicles and other objects at underwater speeds of up to 100 knots. This machine – known as the 'Arm' – and its circular water channel is at the Admiralty Research Laboratory, Teddington, Middlesex. The 'Arm' – weighing 60 tonnes and with a span of 37m – tows models down to 1.5m below the surface through specially filtered and purified water which permits high speed photographic observation of the underwater behaviour.

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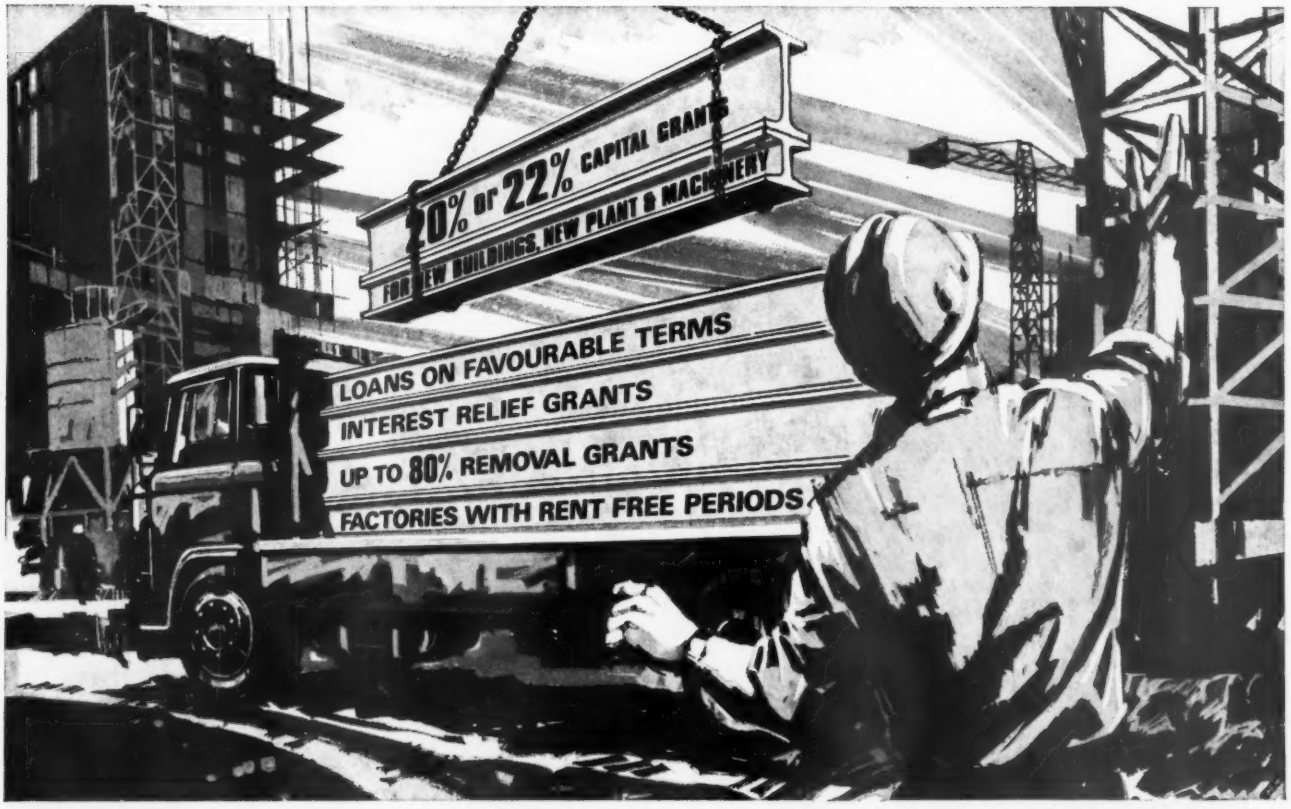
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TI 27/2/76

One of two large mobile crushers for Iran seen before it left the Leicester works of Frederick Parker Ltd. They were part of a consignment worth £750,000 which Parkers are supplying to Marples Ridgway, civil engineering contractors of Bath, for a major road building contract in Iran – a £50 million highway to link Tehran with the Pakistan border. Parkers' consignment will include mobile crushing, screening, stockpiling and asphalt plants, each with a capacity of 150 tonnes an hour.

Air freight regulatory policy

Further liberalisation of the rules governing air freight charter services is proposed by the Civil Aviation Authority in the following statement on freight regulatory policy to be published in its *Official Record* (Series 2)*.

Following the publication of the Authority's document 'International Air Freight Services' (CAP 379) in September 1975, a full programme of consultation and discussion has taken place with both users and providers of air freight services. Many lines of inquiry have been opened up and a number are still being followed. In particular, the point has been made that it would be advantageous to undertake further statistical work on the nature of demand for freight services. Such a survey would be aimed at finding out the extent to which demand remains unsatisfied with a view to improving the freight transport product.

Sufficient work has, however, now been done to satisfy the Authority that its developing line of policy is soundly based. While further research will be undertaken and disruptive changes in the regulatory regime avoided, the Authority feels that there is sufficient evidence to support the changes set out below, which seek to reduce discrimination in the provision of freight services without causing British airlines to suffer a competitive disadvantage.

It is intended that the minimum consignment size for both 6A Standard and Specific licences will be reduced to 500 kg. Consolidation of loads of less than this size will still not be allowed. The 6A Specific Licences are to be redesignated as Class 6D Licences so as to avoid confusion with Class 6A Standard Licences.

It is proposed that, as a closely monitored experiment initially for one year, an exception should be made to the above rules in respect of Specific Licences for services between the UK and Hong Kong. On this route, there would be no minimum consignment size or prohibition of consolidation of loads. This is a cabotage route on which scheduled service freight rates are already unregulated and any scheduled carriers on the route can therefore determine their own rate structure so as to meet competition with complete flexibility.

The experiment referred to in the previous paragraph will help to throw light on the general question of scheduled service freight tariffs. The Authority considers it important that a more rational cost related rate structure is developed for international scheduled services. Among other things, this would enable scheduled services to compete more effectively with charter operations. The Authority will do all it can to help British scheduled airlines achieve this objective and the survey of demand mentioned in paragraph 1 above will provide valuable information to this end.

It is not proposed to introduce any new limitations on the numbers of operators or the number of cargo flights at the present time. The Authority will continue to issue Specific Licences on the basis of forecast demand and when considering charter applications will continue to have regard to the scheduled capacity available on the route.

It is proposed to remove from the Class 6C Licence the three conditions which prohibit the carriage on Fifth Freedom flights of cargo consigned to or from the UK, the advertising of Fifth Freedom services as part of a through service from the UK and the payment for a through service from or to the UK which includes these services. These conditions now seem an unreasonable restraint upon UK operators bearing in mind that there is no practical way of restraining foreign airlines from offering and advertising similar Fifth Freedom services in the UK.

It is not proposed to vary the conditions in Class 6B Licences for the carriage of livestock nor is it proposed to vary the conditions in Class 1 Licences in respect of their use for the carriage of cargo.

The policy outlined above will guide the Authority in deciding the freight charter applications to be heard in the near future. This will not, of course, preclude any of the parties from advancing arguments that the policy should not apply in any particular case: any such arguments will be taken into account in deciding the application.

* *Official Record (Series 2) No. 203, 24 February 1976.* Single copies available (price 30p) from CAA Printing and Publication Services, PO Box 41 ,Cheltenham Glos.

Applications for increases in domestic air fares

The Civil Aviation Authority has received applications from British Caledonian Airways to increase one-way fares by £1 for both operators on the domestic trunk routes between London and Glasgow/Edinburgh.

The present and proposed one-way fares are:

1st Class	£34	£35
Tourist	£23	£24
Special Tourist (Gatwick)	£21	£22
Tourist Off-peak (Gatwick)	£15.50	£16.50
Tourist Off-peak (Heathrow)	£17	£18

Official Receivers' offices

Official Receivers are responsible for the administration of cases in bankruptcy and compulsory liquidation. Inquiries should be addressed to the nearest Official Receiver

High Court of Justice
Senior Official Receiver: J. B. Clemetson

Bankruptcy
Thomas More Building, Royal Courts of Justice, Strand, London WC2A 2JY (Tel: 01-405 7641)
Official Receivers: D. A. Thorne; J. Tye

Companies Winding-up
Atlantic House, Holborn Viaduct, London EC1N 2HD
(Tel: 01-583 8931)
Official Receivers: L. R. Bates; N. Saddler; H. W. J. Christmas

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Commercial Union House, Martineau Square, Birmingham B2 4UP
(Tel: 021-236 8831/7)
A. D. Gwyther; J. F. Hirst

Bournemouth
Burlington Arcade, Bournemouth BH1 2JS
(Tel: 0202-28208/9)
R. F. Savage

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West Riding House, Cheapside, Bradford BD1 4LJ
(Tel: 0274-33651/2)
V. Duffy

Brighton
Windsor House (East Entrance), 30-35 Edward Street, Brighton BN2 2JZ
(Tel: 0273-64301/4 and 688265/8)
J. F. O'Reilly

Bristol
Sun Alliance House, 4 Colston Avenue, Bristol BS1 4BN
(Tel: 0272-290268)
D. S. Clackett

Cambridge
49 Bateman Street, Cambridge CB2 1LT
(Tel: 0223-53930 and 59646)
W. J. Llewellyn

Canterbury
Lombard House, 12-17 Upper Bridge Street, Canterbury CT1 2NQ
(Tel: 0227-62070 and 65037)
A. R. Haigh

Cardiff
3rd Floor, Hayes House, The Hayes, Cardiff CF1 2UG
(Tel: 0222-30575/6/7)
B. J. Longley

Chester
Dee Hills Park, Chester CH3 5AR
(Tel: 0244-21471/2)
J. Carney

Croydon
Park House, 22 Park Street, Croydon CR9 1TX
(Tel: 01-681 2633)
R. A. D. Copper

Exeter
Eastgate House, High Street, Exeter EX4 3JU
(Tel: 0392-55445)
A. J. Seldon

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H. W. Kirkwood

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(Tel: 0482-23720 and 23729)
J. E. Friend

Ipswich
St. Clare House, Greyfriars, Ipswich IP1 1LX
(Tel: 0473-56731)
T. A. Tuck

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(Tel: 0532-448851)
W. A. Bishop

Leicester
Prospect House, 94 Regent Road, Leicester LE1 7DE
(Tel: 0533-222513)
H. Roach

Liverpool
West Africa House, 25 Water Street, Liverpool L2 0RQ
(Tel: 051-236 9131/2)
K. Matthewson

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Townbury House, 11 Blackfriars Street, Salford M3 5AB
(Tel: 061-832 2471)
K. A. Miller; A. N. Percy

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3rd Floor, 4 St. Nicholas Buildings, St. Nicholas Street, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 1RF (Tel: 0632-21104/5)
F. Durkin

Northampton
90 Abington Street Northampton NN1 2BX
(Tel: 0604-37288/9)
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A. R. Haigh

St. Annes-on-Sea
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(Tel: 0253-721271)
M. Clark

Sheffield
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21 London Road, Southampton SO9 1NQ
(Tel: 0703-23348/9 and 23340)
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F. Durkin

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(Tel. 0923-44288)
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Welsh consumer leaflet

Alan Williams, Minister of State for Prices and Consumer Protection, announced on 20 February that Welsh consumers now have their own Welsh version of the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection's shopping advice leaflet 'Your Rights When Buying Goods' – 'Eich Hawliau Wrth Brynu Nwyddau'.

The purpose of the leaflet is to help the consumer understand his rights by dealing with the questions that might arise when shopping or filling in a guarantee.

Launching the new Welsh leaflet in Cardiff, Mr. Williams said: 'Consumer rights are important in any language. Wherever the High Street, consumers should understand their rights and know where to find good advice. The Government's Consumer Advice Centre grant scheme means that there will soon be more than double the number of such centres in Wales. This first Welsh language leaflet further extends the facilities which are being made available to the consumer'.

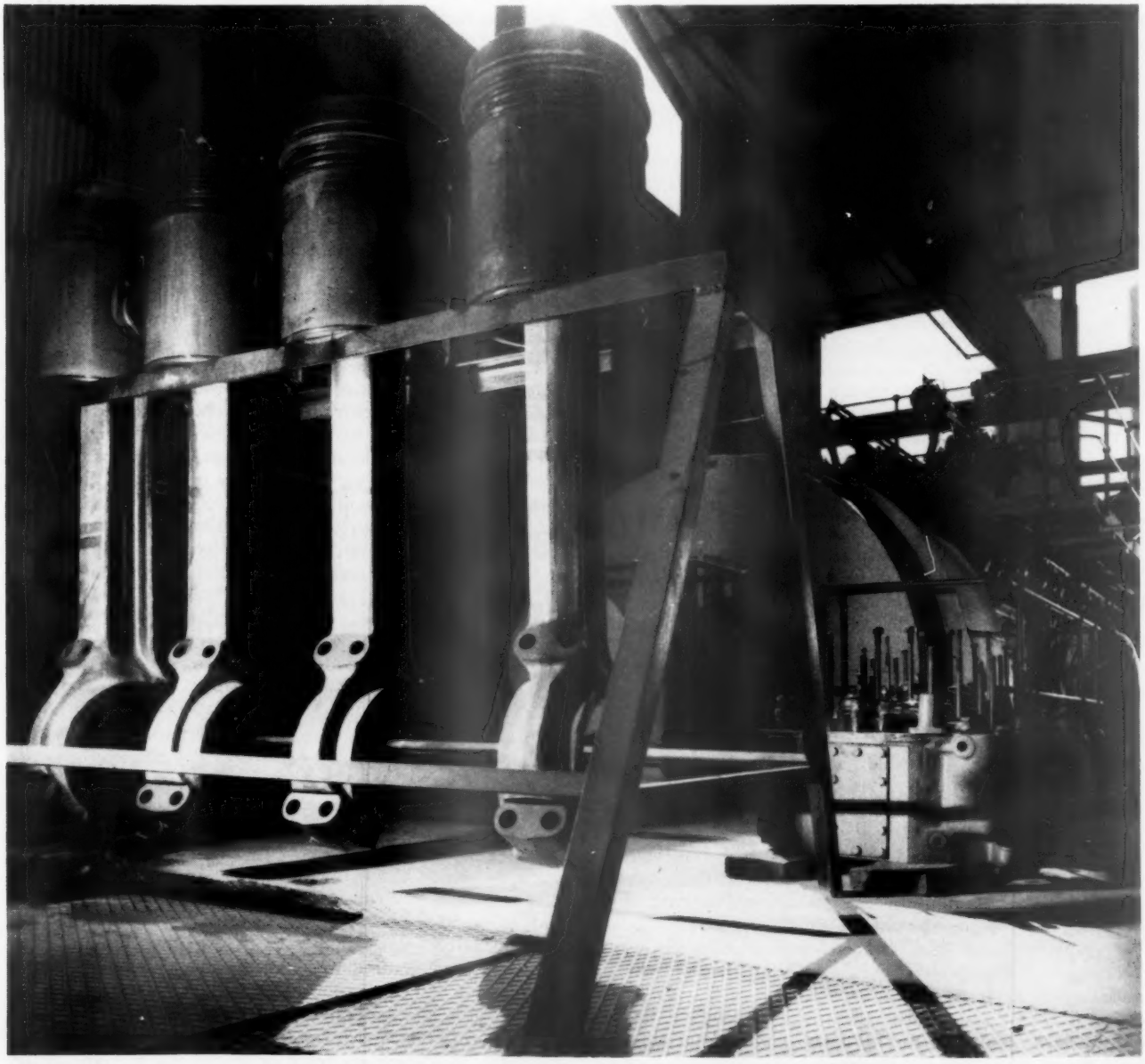
Dried molassed beet pulp exempt from origin marking requirements

For a temporary period, beginning on 1 March and ending on 31 December 1976, imported dried molassed beet pulp supplied under a UK name or mark will not be required to bear an indication of the country of origin. This is the effect of Directions under the Trade Descriptions Act 1972 made on 5 February by Shirley Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

The Trade Descriptions Act 1972 requires a conspicuous indication of the country of origin to be given when imported goods are supplied under a UK name or mark. The Secretary of State has power to exempt goods from this requirement by Statutory Instrument, if she is satisfied that the interests of persons to whom the goods are supplied would not be materially impaired and that it is desirable to do so.

Dried molassed beet pulp is used as an animal feeding stuff and is made by drying the sugar beet residue produced in the manufacture of sugar from sugar beet, with the addition of molasses, to give 10 per cent or more of sugar. Pulp made to the UK product specification is imported in small quantities to supplement bulk supplies from UK sources, with which it is mixed and bagged mechanically.

Copies of the Directions (SI 1976/160) are available from HMSO, price 5p (11½p).



A KV 16 Major diesel engine manufactured by Mirrlees Blackstone Ltd., a Hawker Siddeley company, being installed in a power station in the Sultanate of Oman. Three similar engines are being supplied to the Iranshahr power station in Iran by Hawker Siddeley Power Engineering Ltd., as part of a £3.5 million supply and installation contract.

Britain

Everyman's area navigator

A description of the Marconi–Elliott Avionics AD620 digital navigation system for light commercial and military trainer aircraft, by John Bentley

Just as motorways and railways serve ground transport needs, airways are designated by civil aviation authorities for use by air traffic. These invisible highways in the sky are used to route air traffic safely along corridors specifically reserved for such traffic.

The way in which aircraft guide themselves along these airways varies considerably but the cheapest method is to make use of the existing system of radio transmitters on the ground (referred to as beacons). Beacons are situated at junctions of airways and along their length so that aircraft can receive appropriate signals at any point on the airways system which will allow them to navigate from point to point within the system.

Some beacons are non-directional (NDB) so that the only indication which the pilot receives in the aircraft is the relative position of the beacon from his aircraft. Such NDBs are mainly used at intersections or headingpoints which the pilot will wish to fly directly towards or from.

Other beacons indicate to the pilot the aircraft's bearing from their ground position (VOR) so that, for example, a VOR may be approached easily and accurately from a specific direction. In conjunction with many VORs equipment is fitted which allows the aircraft to know its distance as well as bearing from the beacon. Such a system is known as VOR/DME.

These systems are known as point to point aids because the easiest and most effective use of them is to place them along a route and allow aircraft to fly to and from them. Their disadvantages are their limited range and the fact that aircraft converge on their locations, separated only by height and time. NDBs are medium-frequency beacons whose range depends on their radiated power output; VORs are VHF aids which have essentially line-of-sight coverage. Military aircraft use a UHF system called Tacan, which also gives range and bearing.

For Europe, where airways and airports are densely concentrated, the system copes well with scheduled air traffic. But for aircraft wishing to fly outside the airways system, or in remote parts of the world, across oceans and so on, other systems have been developed. The radio systems, Decca, Loran, Omega, allow aircraft to navigate anywhere within coverage of the transmitters, which is very wide, and in addition large modern aircraft carry self-contained navigation systems such as inertial navigators and Doppler. But these off-airways systems are relatively heavy and expensive – vital to modern air transport and military use, but out of reach of the pocket of many of the operators of smaller aircraft.

To meet the needs of executive aircraft, small airliners and lightweight military aircraft Marconi-Elliott have just introduced a new navigation system which they call the AD620. It is said to be the first British system which allows the pilot to use standard point-to-point aids for off-airways as well as airways flying in addition to retaining a dead-reckoning capability using common data sources which the aircraft will carry anyway.

The AD620 system is based on a computer which has already been developed by Marconi-Elliott for another airborne application. It has an integrated circuit memory, making it small and light, and is modular so that it can be fitted with a range of plug-in options. Basically it consists of a digital processor, memory and interface electronics.

The computer is able to receive information from a variety of sources such as compass reading, air pressure and temperature and at least one radio sensor such as VOR/DME, Tacan or a Doppler navigator. Information from these sources is fed through the interface units to the computer, which processes it and produces the information in a way which is intelligible and useful to the pilot.

Two kinds of display are offered: one is a horizontal situation indicator (HSI) from which the pilot is given an indication of which heading he needs to steer in order to reach his required destination (whether it is on airways or not) by means of a dial and pointer. Many aircraft already have these displays fitted as standard equipment; the second is a digital display which gives him the same information in the form of compass bearings and distances, or in terms of map co-ordinates.

To appreciate the way in which a pilot would use the system one could envisage an aircraft wanting to travel direct from Southend to Norwich – a route which is almost entirely off airways coverage – and then go direct to Birmingham.

First the pilot would select a beacon, or pair of beacons, from which he could receive bearings during the flight and would plot the position of Norwich in relation to each of these beacons. Thus Norwich may be 70 miles east of beacon one, and 85 miles south of beacon two. The locations of the beacons are usually kept stored in the computer, and if the present position of the aircraft is then also entered, two velocity triangles are built up within the memory.

What the pilot wants to know, generally speaking, is the direction and distance of his destination and it is this third side of the triangle which the computer is called upon most often to resolve. As the aircraft moves through the air the triangle formed by the beacon and the destination and the aircraft is constantly changing, and when there is any crosswind the aircraft heading will not coincide with the ground track. The computer takes care of variations in the speed and direction of the wind by taking inputs from the standard aircraft pressure and temperature sensors, and compass heading. Indicated airspeed is also converted to true airspeed.

If an HSI is fitted the pilot can see the bearing of the aircraft from the waypoint by means of a 'bug' which is on the edge of the compass display. If he then turns the aircraft so that the bug is centred with the heading pointer he will be pointing to his destination. The distance to go is shown digitally in a small window at the top right-hand side of the HSI. In addition the central deviation bar would indicate to him whether he was on track or to the left or right of the desired track. He thus has a comprehensive display in one instrument. In a fully digital display the information needs to

be read off by the pilot and used to correct his course using the normal aircraft instruments.

The big advantage of the AD620 is that if for any reason the aircraft flies out of range of a beacon which is being used, the computer takes over completely, and using data already stored on the flight so far, provides dead-reckoning navigation for an unlimited time. Aircraft position can be updated manually at any time, and transfer from one waypoint to the next can be made in the same way as it would be if the radio navigation inputs were being used. The attraction to operators of small- and medium-sized aircraft is that no air data computer is necessary for this operation.

That then is the system. Using what are now standard radio aids, the AD620, for around £5,000 – which is cheap by aviation standards – gives off-airways and dead-reckoning capability.

The market is defined by Marconi-Elliott themselves, who say:

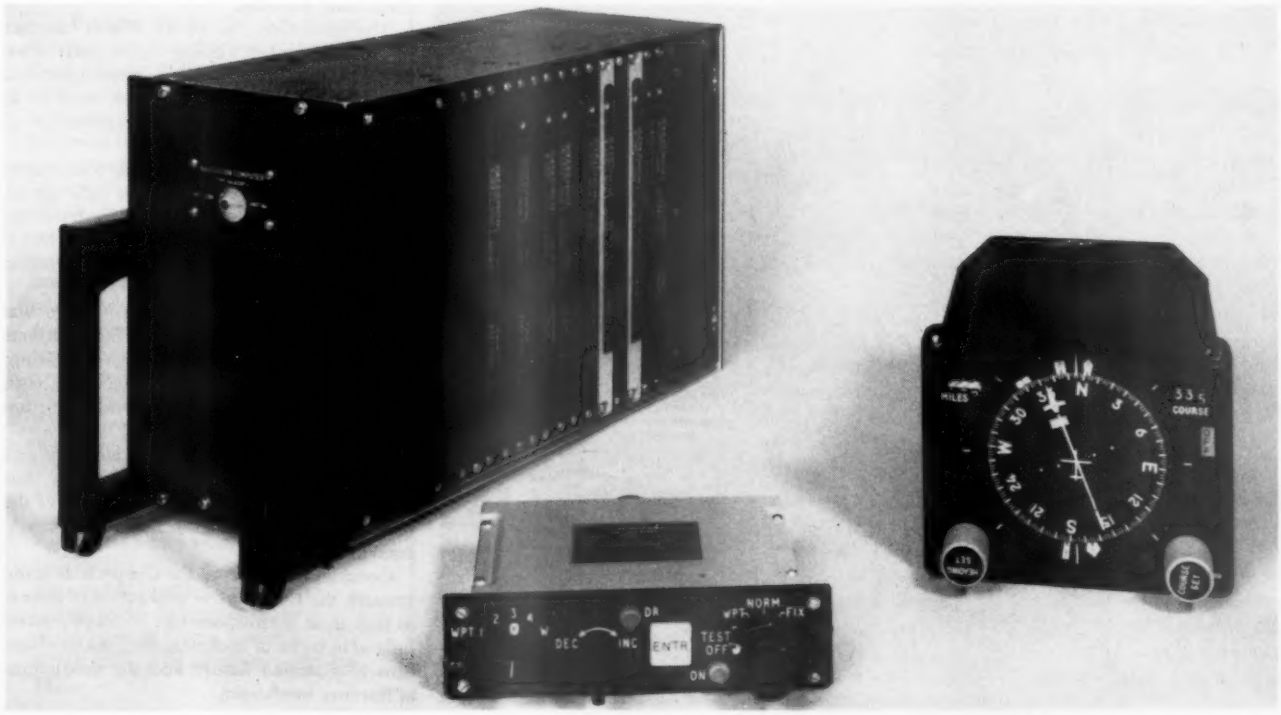
'We had to consider this carefully before deciding to go ahead and build the system more than two years ago. The interesting thing is that, since that time, the potential for our system has, we believe, continually increased. This may sound as though we were merely becoming more confident, once we had decided to go ahead but, in fact, the growing market for AD620 can be put down to two main factors.

'First, looking at civil aircraft, we have detected an increasing demand for this form of area navigation system for executive jet aircraft and, even for larger and heavier twin turbo-prop aircraft. Such types are increasing in numbers substantially, typical examples being the HS125, Falcon 20 and 30, and the Gulfstream.

'Second, on the military side, there are increasing sales of light jet trainer aircraft such as the Hawker Siddeley Hawk, the Alpha Jet and the Aer Macchi MB326. The primary object of these aircraft is for the training of those pilots who will ultimately fly in much more sophisticated aircraft such as Jaguar and MRCA. In flying these aircraft, they will, of course, be faced with the operation of navigation equipment of far greater complexity than the AD620, but which, nevertheless, provides quite similar navigational information. It is obviously desirable, therefore, for student pilots during training, to build up experience of all navigational techniques, using a type of equipment capable of giving this experience while remaining appropriate to the size, cost and operation of the trainer aircraft.

'The sales of this type of aircraft are substantial and we would assess the immediate market prospects as very good for the adoption of the AD620 for this class of equipment. In view of the wide application of the AD620 to all types of aircraft, we also believe that the equipment will have wide appeal to customers in the UK. Taking all these factors into account, we can certainly foresee a world-wide market for AD620 in excess of £5 million.'

The AD620A system comprises a miniature control unit (centre and ½ ATR (short) computer (left), feeding a conventional HSI (example, right). The computer contains a power supply and plug-in printed circuit modules on which the digital processor, electronic memory and interface electronics are mounted



Technology News

Plastic insulation – Safety in Mine Research Establishment assesses the dangers

Using plastics as insulating materials on electrical components can lead to problems in flameproofing which have only recently been recognised. It is well known that if an insulating panel is damp or dirty, electric arcing or tracking may take place over the contaminated surface. The high temperature of the arc chars the panel and volatile gases are produced. These are then 'cracked' by the arc to hydrogen gas and other light molecules.

In a mine in Canada, gases produced in this way raised the pressure inside the flameproof enclosure of a gate-end switch unit to such a level that the enclosure burst. The cover of the unit was blown across the roadway and a large volume of flame was expelled at the same time. This incident demonstrates two distinct hazards associated with plastic insulating materials.

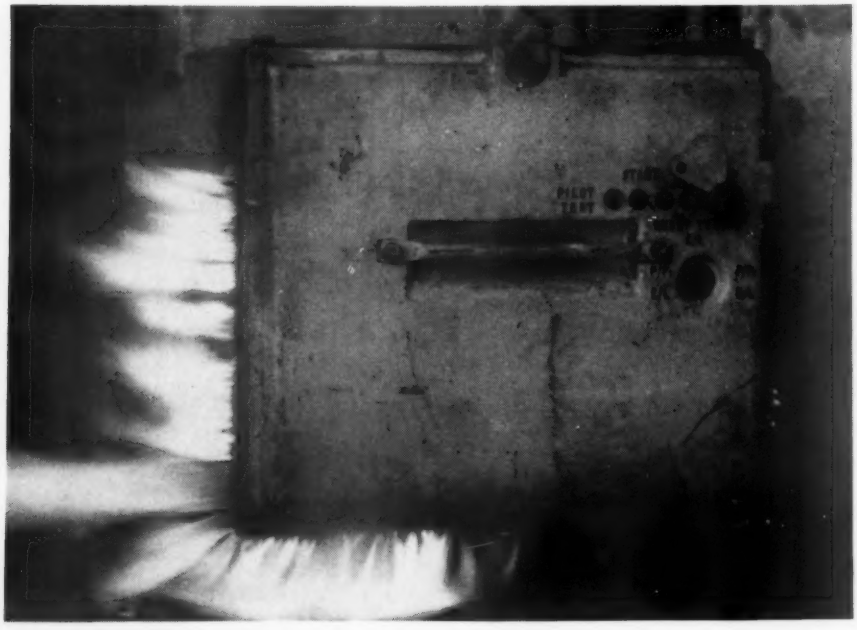
First, a rapid generation of gases may lead to a build-up of pressure inside the flameproof enclosure well in excess of the design pressure, which is calculated to contain gas explosions. The excess pressure may cause the enclosure to burst. Research carried out in Germany has indicated that the process of tracking and charring and hence gas production is likely to happen with conventional mining equipment only when the equipment is grossly overloaded and any protective devices have failed to operate. An enclosure is more likely to burst if the closures are very tight, and there is even evidence that internal pressure can distort the covers and make the closures tighter.

The second hazard arises because the gases generated from the plastics are flammable and can ignite and burn steadily outside the enclosure. In the course of research into the hazards of plastics insulating materials the Safety in Mines Research Establishment reproduced conditions similar to, but less severe than those in the Canadian incident and found that although the temperature inside the enclosure was between 700°C and 900°C, outside the temperature of the expelled gases was only a few degrees above ambient until they ignited. The low temperature of the expelled products seems to indicate that they did not ignite spontaneously. It is more likely that the gases were ignited by particles of molten electrode material ejected at the same time as the gaseous products. Obviously an ignition of flammable products could lead to ignition of a surrounding flammable atmosphere or even an outbreak of fire.

Various measures to reduce the risks have been proposed. A high standard of maintenance is the first necessity, with particular attention to keeping conductors tightly bolted and insulator surfaces clean, so reducing the possibility of tracking and subsequent arcing. Since, typically, several seconds elapse between the commencement of the arcing and the appearance of flame or the bursting of the enclosure it is thought that more attention to design and maintenance of back-up protective circuitry would reduce the hazard. Alternative insulating materials are also being investigated.

Tests with a simple temperature sensor placed inside the enclosure and arranged to cut off the power when heat from severe arcing or tracking is detected have been promising. The device could be useful as a modification to existing equipment where suitable conventional protection circuitry exists.

Inquiries should be sent to The Director of Research and Laboratory Services and Head of SMRE, Health and Safety Executive, Safety in Mines Research Establishment, Red Hill, Sheffield S3 7HQ tel. Sheffield (0742) 78141.



Nondestructive testing on show

A novel laser interferometer, one of the latest nondestructive testing systems developed at Harwell, will be shown at the 1976 Materials Testing Exhibition at the Royal Horticultural Hall, London.

The exhibition, run by the British Institute of Nondestructive Testing, takes place from 26 to 29 April, and the laser interferometer is expected to be of considerable interest to industries where precision calibration is important.

The instrument exploits conventional interferometer principles but gathers information about the motion of the test piece from the Doppler shift of reflected laser light which allows displacement velocity or acceleration to be determined.

The Nondestructive Testing Centre was established at Harwell in 1967. Some aspects of its work are to be featured at the exhibition, as are examples of collaborative work with industry in the solution of industrial inspection and quality assurance problems.

Through its close involvement with Britain's nuclear power programme, Harwell has built up considerable expertise in most of the problem areas which industry frequently encounters.

Considerable effort at the Centre is directed towards the quantitative evaluation of defects so that their significance can be more readily judged in terms of understanding the mechanisms of materials failure and the predictions of fracture mechanics.

Industry invited to NEL

As an economy measure the Director of the National Engineering Laboratory, D. H. Mallison, has decided to cancel the Open Days which it was planned to hold in May 1976.

However, as the Laboratory's Director and the staff wish to continue to maintain and if possible, extend, contacts with industry, an invitation is extended to anyone with an interest in any of the areas of the Laboratory's work to visit NEL. Arrangements should be made with: Marketing Division, Department of Industry, National Engineering Laboratory, East Kilbride, Glasgow G75 0QU tel: (03552) 20222.

The Mica report

Mica is the subject of No. 15 in the series of reports on economic minerals of the United Kingdom compiled by the Mineral Resources Division of the Institute of Geological Sciences, published last week.

Sheet mica is normally mined from rocks, known as pegmatites. Ground and flake mica can be produced directly from schist rocks and as a by-product of china clay working. Some pegmatites were worked in the Scottish highlands during the Second World War but these operations proved uneconomic. Production of flake mica has ceased in Devon.

The uses of mica are based upon its unique combination of physical, chemical and electrical properties. Sheet mica is mainly used by the electrical and electronic industries, but ground mica finds a wider industrial usage.

The recent level of flake mica production in Devon is not known. But it is estimated to have been about 2,000 tonnes a year. The excess of imports over exports in 1974 amounted to 6,000 tonnes. This represented a cost to the balance of payments of about £1.3 million.

Mineral Resources Consultative Committee, MICA (Mineral Dossier No. 15), is published by HM Stationery Office, price 85p.

Seventh IMEKO congress

Neil Carmichael, Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Department of Industry, will open the IMEKO Congress to be held in London from 10 to 14 May 1976 and organised by the Institute of Measurement and Control.

Other speakers at the opening session will include Sir Ieuan Maddock, Chief Scientist at the Department of Industry, and the President of the International Committee of Weights and Measures, Dr. J. V. Dunworth.

The programme will include lectures on subjects such as practical measurement for improving agricultural efficiency; a device for measuring defects in glass coated vessels; measurement in the machine tool industry; measurements of viscosity as a function of temperature in liquid metals and many other subjects, as well as a section devoted to measured variables and to measurement theory and fundamentals.

Further details from the Institute of Measurement and Control, 20 Peel Street, London W8 7PD.

Noise in hydraulic systems

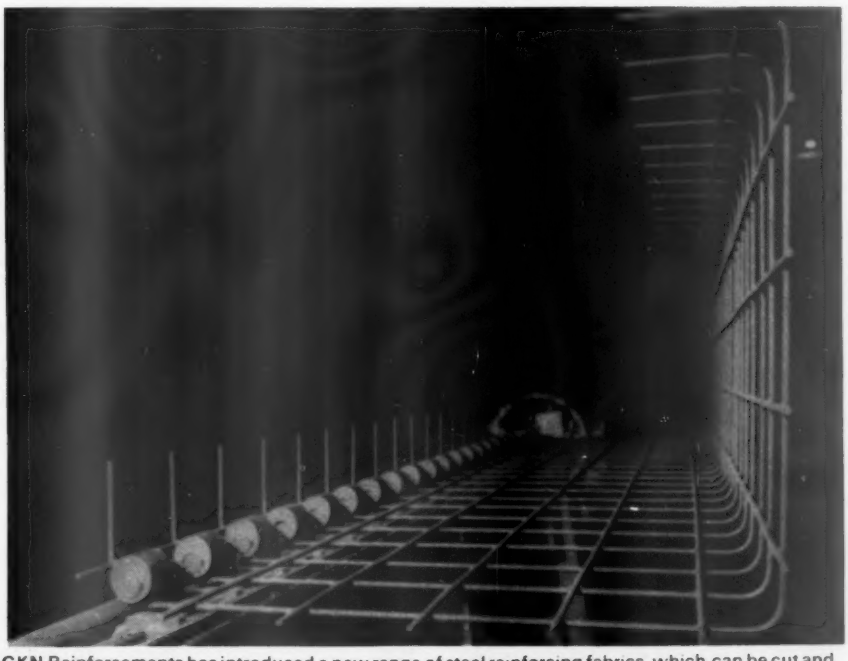
BHRA Fluid Engineering has been awarded an interim contract worth about £88,000 by the Department of Industry to investigate and measure noise in oil hydraulic systems. This is a continuation of work started by the Department, BSI and the Association of Hydraulic Equipment Manufacturers, and is part of a major investigation of noise sponsored by the Department of Industry as a result of the recommendations made by an Institution of Mechanical Engineers Working Party.

The reduction of noise has become a major interest of both equipment manufacturers and users of fluid power. The measurement of noise in pumps, components, and flexible hose, and the isolation of the noise-transmitting parts of the pump circuit, will help to improve circuit design and reduce noise levels generally for public and industry alike. BHRA is already working on a number of projects which could help to improve our environment; for example, sealing problems in industry, and the movement of solids in bulk through both hydraulic and pneumatic pipelines.

BHRA is a member of the former Committee of Directors of Research Associations (CDRA Ltd.). Representing over 30 non-profit distributing industrial research and development organisations in the UK, CDRA aims to provide a service covering industrial technology, research information, management skills and productivity. It provides a link between its members and international organisations, government bodies, other research institutions and industry.

Finance for technology

The National Research Development Corporation provides financial and other support for technological developments of potential commercial importance. NRDC promotes the adoption by industry of new products and processes invented in government laboratories, universities and elsewhere. NRDC is participating in joint ventures with industry on an increasing scale. By supporting projects NRDC makes it possible for individual firms or groups of companies to undertake and accelerate the development and production of new products and processes of national importance. The corporation welcomes submissions in confidence from firms who have promising new projects to launch in any branch of industry or commerce. The conditions for its considering proposals of this kind are set out in a leaflet which may be obtained on application, either by writing to the National Research Development Corporation, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SL, or by telephoning 01-828 3400.



GKN Reinforcements has introduced a new range of steel reinforcing fabrics, which can be cut and bent to shape by simply operated machines, either in the factory or on site. This replaces the traditional time-consuming method of bar by bar assembly, and practical tests have shown that the new system reduces steel construction times on site by 50 per cent. Already made by other firms on the Continent, the reinforcing fabrics are new to the UK and should reduce the risk of error during construction. A cutting and bending machine, costing about £1,300 is needed to make the system work – this is supplied by the same company – and the fabrics comply with British Standards.

Parliament

Monday, 16 February

Industry Act 1972

Mr. Robert Kilroy-Silk (Ormskirk) asked what amounts have been received under the Industry Act 1972 by Wales and by each of the English regions up to 31 March 1975.

Mr. MacKenzie gave the information as follows:

	£m
Wales	60.6
East Anglia	0.7
South East	17.8
South West	9.9
West Midland	11.5
East Midland	5.5
Yorkshire and Humberside	26.0*
North West	90.7
Northern	143.7

* Including £1 million shipbuilding construction grants omitted in error from the answer given on 29 January (Hansard column 335).

Advance factories in the North West

Mr. Paul B. Rose (Manchester, Blackley) asked if the number of advance factories scheduled for the North West would be increased.

Mr. MacKenzie said: 'Five advance factories are available in the North West and 14 are under construction. A further 27 have been authorised but are not yet started. The needs of the region will certainly be borne in mind when further advance factory programmes are being considered.'

Annual expenditure on special regional assistance to industry

Mr. David Howell (Guildford) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would up-date table 1 in the article 'Annual Expenditure on Special Regional Assistance to Industry in Great Britain 1960-61 to 1972-73 in the Economic Journal *for December 1975, page 885, by giving estimates for 1973-74 and 1974-75; and whether the figures given in the table for earlier years are accurate.*

Mr. MacKenzie said: 'The figures in the table referred to are correctly quoted, except that I have not been able to establish the basis on which that for expenditure in 1972/73 under the Industry Act 1972 was prepared. The correct figure should be £17.961 million. Comparable figures for 1973/74 and 1974/75 are as follows:

£'000

		Local Employment Act					Other assistance							
		Under S4 of the 1960 Act												
Fiscal year (1)	Government factory building (2)	Loans (3)	Grants (4)	Operational grants (5)	Building grants (6)	Plant and machinery grants (7)	Free depreciation (8)	Investments grants (9)*	Selective employment tax additional payments (10)	Regional employment premium (11)	Mainly recoverable expenditure (12)†	Mainly non-recoverable expenditure (13)‡	Total expenditure (14)	Total expenditure (1970 prices) (15)
1973-74	12,752	8,207	897	5,320	33,824	—	—	29,534	300	106,800	20,959	176,675	341,733§	247,633
1974-75	19,203	364	628	4,268	17,578	—	—	15,473	—	155,700	19,567	193,647	506,677‖	305,227

* The investment grant was calculated on the same basis as the figures quoted in Table 1 of the article Annual Expenditure on Special Regional Assistance to Industry in Great Britain 1960-61 to 1972-73 published in the *Economic Journal* for December 1975, ie 50% of the Development Area rate.
† Columns (2), (3) and (8).
‡ Columns (4), (5), (6), (7), (9), (10) and (11).
§ Including Regional Assistance under the Industry Act 1972 (£144.099 million).
‖ Including Regional Assistance under the Industry Act 1972 (£293.463 million).

Ministers at the Department of Industry

Secretary of State for Industry: Eric Varley
Ministers of State: Gregor MacKenzie
Gerald Kaufman
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Lord Melchett
Neil Carmichael

Ministers at the Department of Trade

Secretary of State for Trade: Peter Shore
Parliamentary Under-Secretaries of State: Eric Deakins
Stanley Clinton Davis

Ministers at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection

Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection: Shirley Williams
Minister of State: Alan Williams
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State: Robert Maclennan

Industrial development units at universities and colleges

Mr. Dafydd Wigley (Caernarvon) asked how many industrial development units are still in existence at universities and colleges in the UK; where they are located; and whether any further units are planned.

Mr. MacKenzie said: 'Provision for departmental grant aid to the units has now ceased and all responsibility for the units lies with the universities concerned. There were seven of these units, which I understand all still exist. They are located as follows: the Cranfield Institute of Technology; the University of Leeds; the University of Salford; the University of Newcastle; the University of Strathclyde; the University College of North Wales; Bangor; the University College of Swansea.

'My department does not plan to sponsor any further units.'

Machine tools

Mr. Geoff Edge (Aldridge-Brownhills) asked about plans to encourage the development of numerically controlled machines in conjunction with the Government's programme for the re-equipping of British Leyland and Chrysler (UK).

Mr. Kaufman answered: 'My department wishes to encourage British industry in general to invest in more advanced types of machine tools by means of the Machine Tools Industry Scheme and other measures announced by my Rt. Hon. Friend the Chancellor of the Exchequer. The Government hopes that all British firms including British Leyland and Chrysler will, wherever possible, buy from British sources.'

Motor industry

Mr. Michael Grylls (North West Surrey) asked for a statement giving the detailed terms of reference of the Secretary of State for Industry's Group in the Motor Industry; and the Group is expected to report.

Mr. Kaufman said: 'My Rt. Hon. Friend will be discussing with the members of the Group in the near future how best the terms of reference could be formulated. As he said on 11 February in announcing the setting up of the Group, its purpose is to tackle the urgent problems confronting the motor-car

industry; the objective will be jointly to take the action needed to establish a viable, substantial, internationally competitive and unsubsidised motor-car industry in the 1980s. The Group is intended to be a way of maintaining continuing contact between the three parties on the action to be taken. I will keep the House informed of progress from time to time.'

Post Office compensation

Mr. Brian Sedgemore (Luton West) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would give a general direction to the Post Office to pay compensation to persons whose registered mail is wrongfully intercepted by the governments of foreign countries to which the mail was sent.

'No,' said Mr. MacKenzie. 'Article 45 of the Universal Postal Convention to which almost all countries are signatories provides that postal administrations shall not be liable in respect of registered items confiscated or destroyed by the competent authorities in accordance with the laws of the country of destination.'

BSC and Post Office

Mr. Moore asked: 'What have been the declared losses-gains and the capital write-offs of the British Steel Corporation for each year since 1967 and of the Post Office for each year since 1960?'

Mr. Kaufman replied: 'The information on declared losses and gains is given in the table below.

'£350 million was transferred to BSC reserves under the Iron and Steel Act 1972, by way of capital write off. This comprised a £200 million reduction in public dividend capital and £150 million in borrowings from the National Loans Fund. Against this, £131.5 million had been written off by 29 March 1975.

'Post Office write-offs amounted to £130.6 million in 1972/73 and £46.8 million in 1973/74. The Post Office (Banking Services) Bill now before Parliament proposes that the Post Office indebtedness to the National Loans Fund should be reduced by £29.7 million of which £13 million would be recreated into the form of public dividend capital.

£ million

	British Steel Corporation (2)		Post Office (3)	
Year (1)	Profit (after taxation)	Loss (after (taxation)	Profit	Loss (4)
1959/60			20.9	
1960/61			24.3	
1961/62			13.6	
1962/63			12.1	
1963/64			30.7	
1964/65			20.1	
1965/66			40.2	
1966/67			44.3	
1967/68		19.5	39.3	
1968/69		22.8	44.4	
1969/70	12.4		36.2	
1970/71		10.4	20.5	
1971/72		68.0	36.1	
1972/73	2.8			64.1
1973/74	50.2			128.1
1974/75	72.6			306.7

(1) Accounting periods have varied over the years referred to.
(2) Source: BSC Report and Accounts.
(3) Source: Post Office Report and Accounts.
(4) Compensation for Price Restraint is excluded from the figures in the table. Compensation of £9.7 million was paid in 1972/73; £123.6 million in 1973/74; and £307.0 million in 1974/75.

Chairmanship of BSC

Mr. Norman Tebbit (Waltham Forest, Chingford) asked when the present term of office of the chairman of BSC expires; and if Sir Monty Finniston has been invited to continue in office beyond that date.

Mr. Kaufman replied: '9 September 1976; a decision about the chairmanship of BSC after that date will be announced later this year.'

National Maritime Institute

Mr. Alf Bates (Bebington and Ellesmere Port) asked for a statement about the future of the Maritime Science and Ships Division of the National Physical Laboratory.

Mr. Varley's statement was published in last week's *Trade and Industry*, page 487.

Shirts from Taiwan and Hong Kong

Mr. Nicholas Winterton (Macclesfield) asked what representations have been received from British shirt manufacturers concerning the level of imports of ready-made shirts from Taiwan and Hong Kong.

'Representations were made by the Shirt Collar and Tie Manufacturers' Federation when I met them on 19 December 1975,' said Mr. Deakins.

Mr. Winterton also asked if the current levels of imports of ready made shirts from Taiwan and Hong Kong were considered satisfactory and if the Secretary of State for Trade would use his powers to restrict the current level of imports of these shirts.

Mr. Deakins answered: 'Quotas were imposed last year on shirts of all types from Taiwan, and our imports from this source in 1976 will be substantially reduced from 1975 levels. Following the conclusion of the Gatt multi-fibre arrangement imports of shirts of all types from Hong Kong are now subject to quota, and our imports are likely to be lower this year than in 1975.'

Imports of PVC from Hungary

Mr. Mike Noble (Rossendale) asked what action is being taken 'to end the flow of disruptive imports of PVC from Hungary?'

Mr. Deakins replied: 'The Leathercloth and Coated Fabrics Manufacturers' Association has submitted an application for anti-dumping action on PVC leathercloth from a number of countries including Hungary. Evidence relating to imports from Hungary has been supplied and is currently being evaluated.'

Companies' donations to charity

Mr. John Hannam (Exeter) asked if, in the next revision of the Companies Acts, the Secretary of State for Trade would incorporate a provision that all companies shall be assumed to have power to make donations to charities unless such a power is expressly excluded.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied: 'I shall be examining the powers and responsibilities of companies as part of the general review of company law which is being undertaken by my department, and I will consider the question of donations to charity in this context.'

British Airways

Mr. John Moore (Croydon Central) asked: 'What has been the declared loss-gain and the capital write-off of British Airways for each year since 1960?'

Mr. Clinton Davis replied that details of the financial results of British Airways, British European Airways and the British Overseas Airways Corporation, during this period are given in their respective annual reports and accounts, £25 million of BEA's capital debt was written off in 1969. £110 millon of BOAC's capital debt was written off in 1965 but £30 million of this was reconstituted as a capital reserve which was subsequently converted into public dividend capital.

Publicity for Selective Price Restraint Scheme

Mr. Ridley asked by what statutory authority, and upon what Vote, the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection had incurred costs of £475,000 on advertising, £330,000 on printing retailer kits, and £110,000 on distributing retailer kits, in relation to the Selective Price Restraint Scheme.

Mr. Maclennan said: 'The £475,000 on advertising and the £110,000 on distribution were incurred on the Vote of the Central Office of Information and the expenditure of £330,000 on printing the retailer kits was incurred on the Vote of HM Stationery Office. The statutory authority under which this expenditure was incurred is the Appropriation Act 1975, and the expenditure was covered by a Supplementary Estimate approved by Parliament in the Consolidated Fund Bill which received Royal Assent on 19 December.'

Footwear

Mr. Maurice Orbach (Stockport South) asked if the Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection has had discussions with footwear manufacturers asking them to produce and make available in shops, ladies shoes, both small, for example size 1½ and 2, and large sizes, in all fittings.

Mr. Macleannan answered: 'The Office of Fair Trading have received reports of difficulties experienced in this area. They are having discussions with the footwear manufacturers on the development of a voluntary Code of Practice, which may if adopted, among other things improve the availability of a more extensive range of shoe sizes and fittings.'

Index of retail prices

Mr. Jeremy Thorpe (North Devon) asked what was the published figure for the cost of living index at 15 September 1965, 15 September 1970, and 15 September 1975, subject to any necessary adjustments to account for any different basis of calculation used over that period.

Mr. Maclennan gave the information as follows:

January 1974 = 100

14 September 1965	58.9
22 September 1970	73.8
16 September 1975	140.5

Tuesday, 17 February

Insurance brokers

Mr. Robert McCrindle (Brentwood and Ongar) asked what legislation was planned on the registration of insurance brokers, if the Secretary of State for Trade has had discussions with the recently formed British Insurance Broker's Council; and if he has met Mr. Francis Perkins of the Corporation of Insurance Brokers on the recent

Parliament continued

report on registration of insurance brokers by the joint working party under his chairmanship.

Mr. Clinton Davis answered: 'I have received and considered the report of the joint working party, and I have asked for the report to be amplified in certain important respects. It is too early yet to say what legislation may be necessary. My department are keeping in touch with the British Insurance Brokers' Council on this and other matters of concern to insurance brokers.'

Civil aviation policy

Sir George Sinclair (Dorking) asked what account had been taken of the need for the conservation of the metropolitan green belt in the formulation of policy in paragraph 26 of the White Paper (Command Paper No. 6400), 'Future Civil Aviation Policy', to promote the build up of traffic at Gatwick.

'The present build-up of traffic at Gatwick is related to expansion of the airport in accordance with the British Airport Authority's Master Plan,' said Mr. Clinton Davis. 'This was the subject of extensive consultations with the local authorities and other organisations concerned.'

Mr. Norman Tebbit (Waltham Forest, Chingford) asked if the financial arrangements concerning grant in aid to the CAA announced in Command Paper No. 6400, 'Future Civil Aviation Policy', represent a change from the present policy that the authority should break even by 1977-78.

Mr. Clinton Davis replied, 'The relevant paragraphs of Cmnd. 6400 repeat in essence the financial objectives embodied in paragraph 29 of Cmnd. 4899 and similarly identify two areas in which the Authority is not expected to achieve early break-even. There is a marginal change to reflect the possibility of a small residual deficit remaining in 1977/78 on the Authority's other activities.'

Sir George Young (Ealing, Acton) asked what grants have been made to local authority airports and private airports respectively in each of the last 10 years.

Mr. Clinton Davis provided the table below setting out grants made to local authority airports. No grants have been made to privately owned airports.

Landing charges, etc.

Mr. Michael Brotherton (Louth) asked what guidance is given by the Department of Trade to airport owners and managers in changing landing charges and associated tariffs.

Mr. Clinton Davis said, 'Under the Civil Aviation Act 1949 S.8(2)(o) the Secretary of State is empowered to regulate charges at licensed aerodromes. This power has not been exercised formally but it is customary for the Secretary of State's approval to be sought for changes in the charges at British Airport Authority's airports and for the charges recommended by the Aerodrome Owners Association for other airports.'

Duty-free shops

Mr. Brotherton asked for an estimate of the benefit to the British Airport Authority's finances derived from the rents from duty-free shops.

'The British Airports Authority is responsible for negotiation of the concessions for the duty-free shops at its airports,' said Mr. Clinton Davis. 'I understand it is the policy of the Authority not to publish details of income it receives from these concessions but its Report and Accounts for 1974-75 shows that total income in that year from all trading concessions was £17,171,000.'

Film levy fund

Mr. Teddy Taylor (Glasgow, Cathcart) asked the Secretary of State for Trade: 'If he will make a statement on the operation of the film levy fund; and if he will take steps to ensure that levy payments are not made in respect of the production of erotic films.'

'Details of the Fund's operation are laid annually before Parliament', said Mr. Deakins. 'Classification of the content of a film is not within its scope. The Fund is financed from a levy on cinema admissions for all films and it is in turn distributed by reference to box office takings for the film concerned, with some advantages for low cost films.'

Small businesses

Mr. Ivan Lawrence (Burton) asked how many small businesses were registered for the first time in each of the past five years.

'There is no register of "small businesses" as such', said Mr. Clinton Davis. 'Firms not incorporated under the Companies Act are required to register under the Registration of Business Names Act (1916) only if they are not operated under the true name or names of the proprietor(s). These are not necessarily "small businesses" since they include partnerships of, for example, solicitors, accountants or stockbrokers.

'New registrations under the Companies Acts disclose the amount of capital the company is authorised eventually to issue but this amount may be greatly in excess of the value of the working capital intended to be raised during the early years of the company's existence.

'Taking account of the above reservations the numbers registering during the last five years in Great Britain, respectively under the RBN Act and under the Companies Acts with a nominal capital not exceeding £100 were as follows:

	Registered business names	Registered companies
1971	78,728	26,295
1972	95,706	40,492
1973	104,825	52,288
1974	91,299	26,091
1975	95,333	28,337

Textile imports

Mr. J. P. W. Mallalieu (Huddersfield East) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade would consult representatives of British cloth manufacturers with a view to establishing the extent to which cheap imports of mainly wool suits into the UK from Eastern Europe are causing or threatening to cause material injury to British cloth manufacturers.

Mr. Deakins said: 'I am always ready to meet representatives of the British cloth manufacturers if they feel that they are threatened with material injury through dumped imports of cloth. As both the cloth and suit manufacturers will realise, any action taken would have to conform to our own legislation and the Gatt anti-dumping code.'

Mr. Mallalieu also asked about representations from the Clothing Manufacturers Federation about cheap imports of mainly wool suits from Eastern Europe; and about steps being taken to establish whether these imports constitute dumping.

Mr. Deakins answered: 'Representatives of the Clothing Manufacturers Federation on 16 January discussed with officials of my department the problem arising from these imports and the possibility of anti-dumping action against them. My officials explained the criteria which an anti-dumping application has to meet and the Federation representatives agreed to consider the matter further in the light of that information.'

IDC controls

Mr. Peter Walker (Worcester) referred to the present level of unemployment in the West Midlands area and asked for the abolition of all IDC controls until the rate of unemployment falls.

Mr. MacKenzie replied: 'IDC applications are decided with full regard to the circumstances and plans of individual firms and the needs and resources of the locations concerned, particularly the current and expected labour situation. They continue to have an important part to play in the Government's regional policy and a temporary suspension of the control in response to the present unemployment situation in the non-assisted areas would not be justified.'

'Criteria for assistance to industry'

Mr. Neville Trotter (Tynemouth) asked if the Secretary of State for Industry would publish in

£'000

	Birmingham (a)	Carlisle (b)	Glasgow (a)	Manchester (a)	Orkneys (c)	Totals
1965/66	191	—	—	32	—	223
1966/67	220	—	3,500	30	—	3,750
1967/68	162	50	—	540	—	752
1968/69	180	—	—	188	16	384
1969/70	40	—	—	78	—	118
1970/71	13	—	—	23	—	36
1971/72	54	—	—	—	—	54
1972/73	172	—	—	—	—	172
1973/74	3	—	—	95	—	98
1974/75	56	—	—	3	9	68
1975/76 (to January 1976)	17	—	—	1	4	22

(a) Grants payable under agreements providing for the transfer of the aerodromes from the Government to local authorities.
(b) Grants payable under Section 12 of the Civil Aviation Act 1968.
(c) Grants payable under Section 1(1) of the Civil Aviation Act 1949.
In addition, some airports have been reimbursed for aerodrome security costs.

booklet form the document 'Criteria for assistance to industry'.

'Copies are already available on request from my department and its regional offices and from the Scottish and Welsh Offices,' said Mr. Kaufman.

EEC Regional Development Fund

Mr. Paul B. Rose (Manchester, Blackley) asked what proportion of the EEC Regional Development Fund is being allocated to the North West; and how this compares with the proportion of national unemployed currently out of work in the region.

Mr. MacKenzie answered: 'The European Regional Development Fund specifies the share of the fund available for each member state. There is therefore a UK share but no sub-division within it. To date, the Commission has agreed to contribute £38.9 million from the Fund towards the cost of projects in the UK £3.3 million (8.5 per cent) relates to projects in the North West Region. In January 1976, 14.6 per cent of those unemployed in the UK were in the North West.'

EEC regulations on financial assistance

Mr. Geoff Edge (Aldridge-Brownhills) asked which EEC regulations govern the giving of financial assistance to companies for stock building.

'Articles 92-94 of the Treaty of Rome cover all aid granted to industry by member states, and Article 4 of the Treaty of Paris covers aid to the coal and steel industry,' said Mr. MacKenzie.

Output of textile industry

Figures were requested by Mr. George Rodgers (Chorley) showing the increase in output of the textile industry during each of the last available 10 years.

Mr. Carmichael said that the output of the textile industry (Order XIII of the Standard Industrial Classification) as measured by the index of industrial production (1970 = 100) was as follows:

1965	86.1
1966	85.9
1967	84.1
1968	97.1
1969	100.2
1970	100.0
1971	100.7
1972	103.1
1973	108.6
1974	99.2
1975	93.9 (provisional)

Source:
Annual Abstract of Statistics.
Monthly Digest of Statistics.

Wednesday, 18 February

Airports in Scotland

Mr. Russell Johnston (Inverness) asked whether the Government has any proposals to transfer responsibility for those airports in Scotland presently managed by the Civil Aviation Authority to the British Airports Authority.

Mr. Clinton Davis told him that the Government is reviewing responsibility for these aerodromes in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland and expects to refer to them in Part 2 of the consultation document: 'Airport Strategy for Great Britain'.

Committee of Inquiry into Industrial Democracy

Mr. Cyril Smith (Rochdale) asked which bodies or parties have been invited to submit evidence to the Committee of Inquiry into Industrial Democracy, and what guidelines have been issued to assist them.

'These are both matters for the chairman and members of the Committee of Inquiry,' said Mr. Clinton Davis. 'I understand, however, that the committee has not invited any individual bodies or parties to submit evidence to it and has not published guidelines to assist those bodies wishing to submit evidence. The committee has issued a general invitation calling for evidence and its terms of reference make clear the matters on which evidence would be welcomed.'

Development areas

Mr. Kevin McNamara (Kingston upon Hull Central) wanted to know the criteria used in designating an area as an intermediate development or special development area.

'The criteria are those prescribed in Section 1 of the Local Employment Act 1972 as amended and in Section 1(4) of the Industry Act 1972,' said Mr. MacKenzie.

Industrial development in areas of high unemployment

Mr. Peter Walker spoke of the high level of unemployment now prevailing in the West Midlands and asked if, over the next two years, the same incentives to industry would be provided as are provided to other regions of high unemployment.

Mr. Varley answered: 'Measures to counter unemployment, such as the Temporary Employment Subsidy, can benefit firms throughout the West Midlands. The West Midlands has also benefited from the Government's action over British Leyland, Alfred Herbert and Chrysler and will benefit from schemes to bring forward investment projects which would otherwise be deferred as well as from schemes to modernise industries such as machine tools, ferrous and non-ferrous foundries.'

Mr. Michael McGuire (Ince) asked what changes in regional policy are proposed in view of the unemployment situation in Skelmersdale new town.

Mr. MacKenzie answered: 'We anticipated the danger that the problems of Skelmersdale and of Merseyside might become worse by making these places a Special Development Area in 1974.'

Mr. McGuire asked for details of the statutory powers of the Secretary of State for Industry to deal with areas of high unemployment.

Mr. MacKenzie replied: 'Under the Industry Act 1972 (as amended by the Industry Act 1975) I am able to make Regional Development Grants and to provide financial assistance for the provision, maintenance or safeguarding of employment in the Assisted Areas. Section 5 of the Local Employment Act 1972 enables me to acquire land and to build industrial premises in the Assisted Areas. The Industrial Development Certificate control which operates to the advantage of the Assisted Areas is exercised under the powers of the Town and Country Planning Act 1971 (Sections 66-72).

'As part of the new system of planning agreements, Section 21 of the Industry Act 1975 enables me to give certain guarantees relating to the level of financial assistance available to firms under the Industry Act 1972 for identified projects in the Assisted Areas. Under Section 3 of the Industry Act 1975 I am able to direct the National Enterprise Board to exercise the powers of financial assistance in the Assisted Areas conferred on me by Section 7 of the Industry Act 1972.'

Unoccupied government factories

Mr. Dafydd Thomas (Merioneth) asked for a list of all unoccupied government factory premises in each English region, indicating when production last took place in them.

Mr. MacKenzie gave the following information:

Location	Area (m²)	Month production ceased
NORTHERN REGION		
West Chirton	742	April 1971
East Middlesbrough	2,513	October 1974
East Middlesbrough	2,819	August 1974
East Middlesbrough	514	September 1972
Ashington	938	April 1974
Teesside	1,373	April 1975
Team Valley	9,959	August 1971
Bede	1,451	September 1973
West Auckland	6,760	September 1975
Leadgate	259	N
Pallion	906	January 1970
Team Valley	1,466	March 1974
Hartlepool	940	September 1975
Meadowfield	7,450	May 1975 L
Team Valley	641	July 1975
Southwick	405	April 1975
Teesside	256	N
Tweedmouth	1,498	N
Hartlepool	516	N
Almwick	500	N
Pennywell	2,384	N
Cleator Moor	1,033	N
Lillyhall	951	N
Lillyhall	1,353	N
Leadgate	1,454	N
Cramlington	1,353	N
Crook	1,454	N
Hartlepool	1,454	N
Lillyhall	2,371	N
Stanley	951	N
West Auckland	912	N
Blyth	1,454	N
Tynemouth	2,495	N
Cleator Moor	1,454	N
Blyth	4,399	September 1973 L
St. Helen Auckland	1,673	September 1974 L
Team Valley	1,260	February 1975 L
Team Valley	593	March 1975 L
Team Valley	823	November 1975 L
Team Valley	116	November 1975 L
Teesside	2,390	December 1975 L
Houghton Le Spring	1,373	November 1975 L
Team Valley	1,454	N
Houghton Le Spring	1,454	N
Houghton Le Spring	1,454	N
Tynemouth	1,454	N
Tynemouth	1,454	N
Houghton Le Spring	1,454	N
Team Valley	443	May 1974 L
Team Valley	2,184	January 1975 L
Team Valley	1,061	January 1975 L
Houghton Le Spring	2,739	August 1974 L
St. Helen Auckland	1,115	May 1975
North Tees	3,312	September 1974
Pallion	831	December 1975 L
NORTH WEST REGION		
Knowsley	951	N
Huyton	3,467	October 1972
Knowsley	951	N
Lamberhead	912	N
Lamberhead	912	N
SOUTH WEST REGION		
Truro	951	N
Newquay	951	N
Plymouth	951	N
Penryn	1,027	September 1975 L
Camborne	1,915	December 1975 L
YORKSHIRE AND HUMBERSIDE REGION		
Doncaster	258	N
Hull	1,353	N
Bridlington	1,032	N
Bridlington	951	N
Normanton	1,454	N
Hull	900	N

N = Not yet occupied.
L = Vacated but remains leased to the tenant.

Parliament continued

Advance factories in Hull

Mr. McNamara asked how many advance factories have been built in the Hull travel-to-work area since its classification as an intermediate development area; how many jobs were created; and how many manufacturing firms not previously established within the area became tenants.

Mr. MacKenzie gave the following information:

Authorised	Completed	Occupied	Allocated to a tenant	Present employment
7	4	1† 1 unit of a 4 unit factory	2 units of a 4 unit factory†	49

† Tenants not previously established in the area.

Petrol prices

Mr. John Cartwright (Greenwich, Woolwich East) asked for a statement about petrol prices.

Mr. Alan Williams replied. His answer is published on page 565.

Thursday, 19 February

Export credits

Mr. Max Madden (Sowerby) asked if the Secretary of State for Trade would review arrangements under the ECGD whereby credit inquiries for amounts of under £15,000 are not given urgent consideration; and what representations have been received by his Department about these arrangements.

'No,' said Mr. Deakins. 'The Confederation of British Industry, the British Export Houses Association and ECGD's Advisory Council of businessmen and bankers were consulted beforehand and welcomed the new system. It enables exporters to fix limits up to and beyond £15,000 without reference to ECGD. Where exporters nonetheless ask ECGD to fix limits, the treatment of such applications is unchanged, except on amounts below £15,000 and then only if inquiries overseas by ECGD are necessary. Apart from a single complaint, preliminary indications suggest that ECGD's policyholders appreciate the greater flexibility and overall speed of the new system.'

Volume of imports

Mr. Frank Hooley (Sheffield, Heeley) asked for information on the percentage increase by volume in 1975 over 1974 of imports of cars, commercial vehicles, textiles, footwear, steel, aircraft (including spares), ships, machine tools, computers, office equipment and chemicals.

Mr. Deakins answered that index numbers of the volume of imports are not compiled for all the headings listed, but percentage changes are given based on the index numbers where available. For some headings, the changes are based on units of quantity where practicable, but because of the variety of goods within each heading and changes in the nature of the goods (quality, size, etc.) between the two years, the percentage changes shown should be used and interpreted with care. For other headings changes in value have been used.

	% change	Basis
Cars	+20	Number
Commercial vehicles	−34	Number
Textiles	−1	Volume index
Footwear	−2	Number
Steel	−2	Weight
Aircraft (including spares) (a)	+4	Value
Ships (b)	+2	Value
Machine tools	−7	Weight
Computers	+11	Value
Office equipment	+8	Value
Chemicals	−20	Volume index

Note:
(a) Excluding re-imports and goods imported for process or for incorporation with other products and subsequent re-export.
(b) Includes ships purchased by UK registered companies but delivered abroad.

Export promotion

Mr. Hooley asked what was the total government expenditure on export promotion (including subventions to private associations of exporters or industrialists) in 1973, 1974 and 1975; what is the estimated sum for 1976; and what percentage increase or decrease this represents in real terms year on year in the period concerned.

Mr. Deakins said: 'Total government expenditure on export promotion (including staff costs) was assessed at £32.9 million in 1973-74 and £38.8 million in 1974-75; it is estimated at £48.1 million in 1975-76. In real terms these figures show no significant variation in the level of expenditure between the three years. Estimates for 1976-77 have not been published but expenditure in that year is expected to continue at broadly the same level in real terms.'

Assistance for the printing machinery industry

Mr. Joseph Dean (Leeds West) asked if the Crabtree Vickers Engineering Group of Leeds would qualify for government aid under the assistance for the printing machinery industry announced to the House on 12 February.

'Crabtree Vickers would be eligible to apply for assistance under the proposed scheme for any project in the printing machinery field,' said Mr. MacKenzie.

Chrysler (UK) Ltd.

Mr. Grylls inquired about the names of directors appointed to the board of Chrysler (UK) Ltd.

Mr. Kaufman said that these would be announced shortly.

Footwear prices

Mr. Mike Noble (Rossendale) asked which categories of footwear are to be included in the voluntary price restraint scheme.

Mr. Maclennan replied: 'The British Footwear Manufacturers' Federation has recommended to its members that they include in the Selective Price Restraint Scheme certain continuing lines of footwear, including childrens' footwear. The lines concerned will be nominated by individual manufacturers, up to 15 per cent of their production.

'In addition to the scheme list of items for which prices are to be restrained by UK manufacturers, distributors may include within the Scheme lines of footwear of their own choosing, within the broad categories of the list, provided this does not distort the proportion of imported merchandise in their sales.'

Friday, 20 February

Grants to CAA and BAA

Sir George Young asked what grants have been made to the Civil Aviation Authority and the British Airports Authority since their establishment.

Mr. Clinton Davis said that the Government has paid grants to the Civil Aviation Authority of (a) £96.5 million to meet deficits on revenue accounts and (b) £1.7 million and £6.6 million for the development of Inverness and Sumburgh Airports, respectively; and to the British Airports Authority of £0.35 million and £8.6 million for the development of Aberdeen and Edinburgh Airports, respectively. These figures do not include the reimbursement of airport security costs.

Investigations under the Companies Acts

Mr. John Stonehouse (Walsall North) asked what sections of the report or evidence were provided to the police in respect of the investigation under Sections 165(6) of the Companies Act 1948 into Blanes Ltd. in advance of publication.

'None,' said Mr. Clinton Davis.

Mr. Stonehouse also asked whether, when information or evidence is given to the police from inspector's reports in connection with investigations under the Companies Act, this action is taken on the initiative of the Department of Trade.

'Yes,' said Mr. Clinton Davis.

Civil service staff

Mr. Norman Tebbit (Waltham Forest, Chingford) asked for a list of the reductions of staff, including details of grades, anticipated within the Department of Industry in view of the reduction in the tests of monitoring the performance of the aerospace and shipbuilding industries after the vesting days for those industries.

Mr. Kaufman said: 'Compared with the 100 staff at present in the two Sponsoring Divisions of my department I expect a progressive reduction amounting to some 20 per cent by the time the negotiation of compensation to the nationalised companies has been completed. I am not able at this stage to specify the grades concerned.'

Have you a good export picture?

Each week *Trade and Industry* publishes pictures illustrating Britain's export business. Companies with export successes are invited to send in the story with a photograph showing the goods in manufacture, ready for despatch, or, preferably, on arrival overseas. The story must, of course, reach us while it is still news.

Send your export photographs to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Addresses of ECGD offices

The Export Credits Guarantee Department (ECGD) is a Government Department providing export credit insurance for United Kingdom exporters and insurance against political risks for new investments overseas. Although credit insurance is its main service to exporters the Department offers them a number of others. Firstly the Bank Guarantee scheme enables exporters who are eligible to obtain export finance from their bank at a special low rate. Major projects carried out by British firms in overseas countries can be financed by the buyer credit technique which gives the exporter the bulk of his payment on shipment of the goods. Similar to this is the line of credit facility which extends the buyer credit principle to include contracts often with an individual value as low as £10,000. ECGD now insures 35 per cent of all UK exports. For full details of all ECGD services contact Publicity Branch, ECGD, Aldermanbury House, Aldermanbury, London EC2P 2EL, telephone 01-606 6699 extension 258, telex 883601, or get in touch with one of the offices listed below.

Central London

London, EC1 to EC4, WC1 and 2, W1 and SW1.

D. G. Hake, Waverley House, 7-12 Noel Street, London W1V 3FB. Tel. 01-437 2292, Telex 24105.

South London

London SE, SW2–20 and W2–14, Kent, Surrey (excluding the administrative district of Spelthorne), East and West Sussex, the eastern part of Hampshire, the Isle of Wight and the Channel Isles.

T. W. Hawes, 320 Purley Way, Croydon, Surrey CR0 4XJ. Tel. 01-686 9921. Telex 946998.

North London

London N, NW, E, the southern parts of Essex, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire, the Slough, Burnham and Datchet area of Berkshire and the Spelthorne district of Surrey.

C. W. Gentry, 593–599 High Road, Tottenham, N17 6SW. Tel. 01-808 4570. Telex 263615.

Belfast

The six counties of Northern Ireland.

R. H. Forsyth, River House, High Street, Belfast BT1 2BE. Tel. 0232 31743. Telex 74577.

Birmingham

Leicester, Nottinghamshire, Salop, Staffordshire, Warwickshire, West Midlands, the southern part of Derbyshire and that part of Hereford and Worcester formerly known as Worcestershire.

F. Wilmot, Colmore Centre, 115 Colmore Row, Birmingham B3 3SB. Tel. 021-233 1771. Telex 33132

Bristol

Dyfed, Powys, Gwent, West, Mid and South Glamorgan, Gloucester, Avon, Wiltshire, Oxon, Dorset, Somerset, Devon and Cornwall. That part of Hereford and Worcester formerly known as Herefordshire, Berkshire except the Slough, Burnham and Datchet areas and the western part of Hampshire.

R. A. Bounds, Robinson Building, 1 Redcliffe Street, Bristol BS1 6NP. Tel. 0272 299971. Telex 44248.

Cambridge

Bedfordshire, Cambridge, Norfolk, Northamptonshire and Suffolk, the northern parts of Essex, Hertfordshire and Buckinghamshire, and the southern part of Lincolnshire including the City of Lincoln.

H. Watson, Three Crowns House, 72-80 Hills Road, Cambridge CB2 1NJ Tel. 0223 68801. Telex 81624.

Glasgow

Scotland and the Outer Isles.

F. R. Burge, Fleming House, 134 Renfrew Street, Glasgow G3 6TL. Tel. 041-332 8707. Telex 77130.

Leeds

Durham, Tyne & Wear, Northumberland, Cleveland, North, West and South Yorkshire, Humberside and the northern part of Lincolnshire.

W. Ford, West Riding House, 67 Albion Street, Leeds LS1 5AA. Tel. 0532 450631. Telex 55125.

Manchester

Gwynedd, Clwyd, Cheshire, Merseyside, Greater Manchester, Lancashire, Cumbria, the northern part of Derbyshire and Isle of Man.

R. H. K. Hughes, Elisabeth House, St. Peter's Square, Manchester M2 4AJ. Tel. 061-228 3621. Telex 667756.

New York

In the United States of America exporters can obtain assistance from the Department's resident Representative for the USA and Canada.

J. K. Sedman c/o British Trade Development Office, 150 East 58th Street, New York 10022 USA. Tel. 212-593 2258. Telex 420543.

BOTB News

Continued BOTB support for industry's export plans

The British Overseas Trade Board's product selection exercise, designed to establish with industry a joint export promotion programme for Britain's major overseas markets, has been thoroughly reviewed and the Board has approved the consequent promotional plans for 1976/77.

First introduced in 1973, the annual exercise has involved commercial diplomatic posts in major markets in identifying products which seem to offer the best export prospects for British firms. A representative selection of firms and trade associations in these sectors of industry are then consulted by home-based BOTB officials with the aim of agreeing for each market a list of products on which industry sets a high priority, where it would welcome promotional assistance and, therefore, where the BOTB might most effectively concentrate its efforts.

In 1975, more than 1,000 exporters and 71 trade associations covering some 60 industrial sectors were asked whether their marketing intentions had altered, especially in the light of the world economic scene, since the previous product selection exercise discussion with them in 1974, and where the BOTB's support would be particularly welcome in 1976/77. Those consulted, as in earlier years, generally welcomed the chance to discuss their overseas marketing plans and showed a keen interest in the Board's attempt to update its overall view of industry's intentions.

The resultant lists have, to varying degrees, changed from those in 1974. This is partially due to the uncertain world trade situation, but it also reflects a refining process as both the Board and industry become more familiar with the means of identification of those product sectors where the official services may most profitably be deployed in backing industry's own marketing activity.

Another updating of the exercise during 1976 is planned and it is hoped that slight modifications in the consultation procedure will further improve the quality of the information that emerges and strengthen the working relationship with individual firms and trade associations.

Backing for overseas events

Supported by the British Overseas Trade Board, nearly 1,900 British firms are taking part in 96 overseas trade fairs in 23 countries during the first three months of 1976. In the same period the BOTB expects to assist 73 outward missions involving over 1,100 British firms going to 42 countries.

For the first time there will be a British pavilion for the group of 13 British companies taking part at the Cairo International Trade Fair, from 8-27 March. Grain dryers, catering equipment, numerically controlled machine tools, woodworking machinery, garden equipment and agricultural rotovators will be among the wide range of British products exhibited. A 'Great Britain Greets Leipzig' promotion has been arranged by the BOTB at the Leipzig International Spring Fair, from 14-21 March. It is the first such promotion ever staged at Leipzig by a western country. More than 140 British firms will exhibit or be represented at the fair and products from many sectors of British industry will be on display including engineering, hydraulic equipment, machine tools, building equipment and scientific instruments.

Mr. S. M. Black, Commercial Councellor at the British Embassy in Oslo, speaking at the London Chamber of Commerce Forum on Anglo-Norwegian Trade on 18 February. Seated next to him are (left to right) Mr. O. Knudsen, Information Officer, Export Council of Norway, Mr. R. Fenton, managing director, William Brown-Atkinson and Co., Sir Peter Tennant of the British Tourist Authority, Ms. M. Yelland, London Chamber of Commerce, and Mr. R. Fuglesang, director of F. Fuglesang Ltd. The Forum, which was attended by over 120 members and guests of the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry, was organised by the British Overseas Trade Board's Overseas Visitors Bureau.

Japan: an important market for health and gym equipment

'Attitude surveys suggest an important latent market for health and gym equipment in Japan.' This is the main conclusion in a report published last week *The Japanese Market for Health and Gym Equipment* by the British Overseas Trade Board.

Three reasons are given for the projected growth in the market for sports products – including health and gym equipment: Increased leisure time; increased incomes; and an increasing proportion of larger incomes being spent on discretionary items rather than essentials.

The report considers there are particularly good prospects for the 'omnibus' piece of gym equipment such as the universal gym machine. It says: 'The market prospects for equipment of this type is generally regarded as very good, because it satisfies the basic requirements of the market.'

Schools, company exercise facilities and equipment for home use are especially seen as expanding market areas for health and gym equipment. The report also draws attention to the high degree of awareness in Japanese people under 40 of the need to exercise, as a preventive measure, to ward off deterioration in health.

The Japanese Market for Health and Gym Equipment was prepared for the British Overseas Trade Board by International Business Information Inc., Tokyo. It is available to British manufacturers, price £1.50 post free, from the Central Library, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Bucharest exhibition calendar

The British Overseas Trade Board has been informed by the Romanian Trade Publicity Agency, Publicom, that they propose holding the following specialised exhibitions in the first half of 1976 in Bucharest.

2-5 March	Romplast	Rubber and plastics processing machines, monomers polymerisation and polycondensation products, artificial resins
9-12 March	Technica de Calcul	Computering technology field
16-19 March	Presiune Temperatura	Temperature and pressure measuring equipment
23-26 March	Medicina	Medical equipment for diagnosis, surgical, curative and treatment
30 March-2 April	Ambalajul	Machines and materials for packaging
6-9 April	Armaturi-Sudura	Welding equipment – specialised fittings and valves
13-16 April	Material Didactic	Educational equipment including audio visual aids
20-23 April	Optica	All type of optical apparatus, devices equipment and machines
18-21 May	Automate de Taxat	Post Office automated equipment
25-28 May	Combaterea Poluarii	Air pollution control equipment
1-4 June	Teleradio	Telecommunication, radio, TV and flight control equipment
15-18 June	Transport-Uzinal	Goods handling equipment for shops, railways and airports
22-25 June	Repro-Poligrafica	Duplicating, copying materials and machine for printing
29 June-2 July	Veterinara	Instruments, medicines, etc., for use in veterinary field

The BOTB will not be organising joint ventures to these events but further information on these exhibitions may be obtained from: Mr. O. Moarcas, Publicom, Foreign Trade Publicity Agency, Bucharest, Romania, 22 N Balcescu Blvd. Telex 11374; tel: 14 75 35.

Country Desk contact in the Department's Fairs and Promotions Branch is A. E. Reid, tel: 01-248 5757 ext. 604.

Merseyside group for the Philippines

The Merseyside Chamber of Commerce and Industry, in conjunction with the BOTB, is organising a trade mission to the Philippines from 24 June to 2 July, to be followed by a three-night post-mission stop-over in Hong Kong on the return journey.

Products which offer good opportunities include equipment for the food processing industry and wood processing industry, machine tools, construction plant, marine equipment, medical and hospital equipment and plastic working machinery.

Application forms are available now from Chris Mercier, Overseas Trade Secretary, Merseyside Chamber of Commerce and Industry, 1 Old Hall Street, Liverpool L3 9HG (tel. 051-227 1234).

Billing in foreign currency

A morning conference on the use of foreign exchange in export invoicing will take place at the London Chamber of Commerce and Industry on Wednesday, 24 March.

The conference will examine recent currency fluctuations, describe the mechanisms of the foreign exchange market, explain how foreign currency can be used in export invoicing and discuss the assistance rendered by banks and export finance houses.

Gerard Bonham-Carter, chairman of the British Export Houses Association and director of Charterhouse Japhet Export Finance Ltd., will chair the conference.

Visits by British Overseas Commercial Officers

The following Overseas Commercial Officers are expected to be in this country shortly, when they will be available for discussions.

Bahamas
P. F. Newman, Second Secretary (Commercial) in Nassau since March 1974.
Available: May 1976

Chile
R. Bedford, First Secretary (Commercial) in Santiago since August 1974.
Available: June 1976

Republic of Korea
P. Fluck, Commercial Attaché in Seoul since June 1975.
Available: July 1976

Peru
M. Elliott, First Secretary (Commercial) in Lima since May 1974.
Available: June 1976

British firms and organisations, other than those in Northern Ireland, Scotland, Wales and in the areas covered by the Department of Trade Offices for the Eastern Region and the London and South Eastern Region, who wish to meet the officers to discuss specific export problems are asked to write for appointment to the appropriate Department of Industry Regional Director (Exports) stating the nature of the problem and commodities involved.

Those firms and organisations in the London-based Regions mentioned above (together with those in other Regions who would prefer, or who would be prepared if necessary to meet the officers for an interview in London) should write to Tours Section, Overseas Visitors Bureau, Department of Trade, Room G60, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU.

Firms and organisations who wish to meet the officers in Northern Ireland, Wales and Scotland should contact the Export Branch of the Department of Commerce, Belfast, Welsh Office, Cardiff and the Scottish Office, Glasgow.

Limited time

Because Commercial Officers often have only limited time at their disposal it may not always be possible to fit everyone in. Where it is possible, firms are reminded that the Export Services and Promotions Division of the Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU who are in close touch with all Overseas Commercial Officers can very often supply advice, or the information that applicants hoped to obtain at the interview. Outside London, the Regional Offices of the Department of Industry, Welsh and Scottish Offices and the Department of Commerce Belfast, can also help.

Exhibitions and Fairs

Peter Shore will visit Leipzig

At the invitation of the German Democratic Republic an expanded British presence 'Great Britain Greets Leipzig' is being arranged by the BOTB at the Leipzig Spring Fair which takes place from 14–21 March. This is the first promotion staged by a western country at the fair.

More than 140 firms

Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, will visit the fair on 14 March and more than 140 British firms will be exhibiting or represented at the event.

The BOTB is supporting five joint-venture displays in co-operation with the Association of Hydraulic Equipment Manufacturers, the Birmingham Chamber of Industry, the Building Centre, the Machine Tool Trades Association and the Scientific Instrument Manufacturers Association. The 45 firms taking part through the joint venture scheme will exhibit products including pumps, motors, valves and filters, hoses and fittings, technical books and journals, metal working machinery and parts, packaging and conveying equipment, industrial fasteners, cleaning equipment, machine and hand tools, excavators, cranes, forklift trucks, concrete treatment equipment, scientific and technical instruments, recorders and controllers, dry transfer symbols and tapes, testing machines and medical equipment.

Modern British technology

An exhibition of modern British technology, with a particular emphasis on metal working, is being arranged by the BOTB. In addition, there will be other displays of advanced building techniques arranged in co-operation with the Department of Health and Social Security, the Building Research Station and the Timber Research and Development Association.

British communications engineering in Chicago

Leading British manufacturers in the sphere of broadcasting electronics will exhibit at the National Association of Broadcasters Convention and Exhibition in Chicago from 21-24 March, with the backing of the BOTB and sponsored by the Electronic Engineering Association.

The 12 firms involved will be demonstrating some of the most advanced British technology in communications engineering, some of which has never previously been seen in the USA. Products include 'Intellect', an intelligent TV system for the electronic generation and processing of pictures; light-weight headsets chosen for use by all TV commentators at the Montreal Olympics; and the first production models of a new outside broadcast camera crane.

This highly specialised annual event is unique in the USA and participation is considered imperative for British firms who wish to promote sales there.

8000 EXPORTERS

FIS carry out continuous research into the activity of UK exporters —who they are, how much they export, and to which countries.

The 1976 Exporter Lists give concise details of the 8,000 exporters who are collectively responsible for virtually the whole of the UK's exporting activity. They are contained in 10 booklets, each covering a geographical area of the UK. 1,900 companies and their subsidiary units exporting more than £1m a year, and those exporting more than half their output, are specially identified.

We also produce separate lists of UK exporters to individual countries and areas, including West Germany, France, Holland and Belgium, Italy, Spain and Portugal, Scandinavia, Eastern Europe, the Middle East and the Far East. Lists of exporters to other countries are in the course of preparation.

FIS Exporter Lists, now in their fourth year of publication, are invaluable aids to companies serving the export trade, for direct mailing, telephone selling and as sales call lists.

For sample sheets, price list, and order form please telephone or write to:

FREIGHT INFORMATION SERVICES,
Adelphi Chambers, Hoghton Street, Southport, Merseyside PR9 0NZ. Tel: Southport (0704) 38515.

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Timely opportunity to export boats

From Robert Hyde, Second Secretary (Commercial), British Embassy, Paris: The 15th Paris International Boat Show took place at the Palais de la Défense from 17-26 January at a time when the ship and boat-building industry in Britain is experiencing difficulties in the domestic market following the increase in VAT on its products, from 8 per cent to 25 per cent. The show therefore offered a timely opportunity to expand export trade, notably in the French market, the largest in Europe.

From the point of view of public support the Paris show was an undoubted success; some 348,000 people (25,000 more than 1975) visited the salon, including 6,452 from overseas countries. Exhibitors came from 18 foreign countries, and the British contingent was the largest. Some 40 British companies were represented, of whom 28 exhibited in a joint venture sponsored by the Ship and Boat Builders' National Federation and supported by BOTB. As in 1975, the joint venture occupied over 1,500m² of stand space, on this occasion in the sailboat, powerboat and equipment sections only.

The show took place at a time of cautious optimism in the French industry, and in general British exhibitors were well satisfied with the response obtained at the exhibition. Among sailing boat manufacturers, Thames Marine had particular success with their Mirage 28, which seemed to combine the virtues of British engineering and continental styling. Of powerboat manufacturers exhibiting, Fletcher Boats and Fairline both reported good sales of their craft during the salon and the promise of more to come. In the equipment section, Neco Marine had a successful show with their electronic navigation equipment.

Britain certainly made her presence felt at this colourful show. The newly-arrived British Ambassador, Sir Nicholas Henderson, made this the occasion for his first official visit to an exhibition in Paris and an added boost to the British participants was the visit to the show by Edward Heath, MP on 25 January.

British firms dominant at Swedish boat shows

British firms are dominating two Swedish boat shows taking place this month. The BOTB is supporting 27 companies in two joint-venture displays. This will be the first time the British boat industry has exhibited, in the same year, at the Gothenburg and Stockholm Boat Shows – two annual events held in February.

At the Gothenburg International boat show which was held between 13-22 February there were more exhibitors from Britain than any other country. The BOTB supported 14 British firms in association with the Ship and Boat Builders Federation.

At the Stockholm International boat show (26 February-7 March) the British joint-venture group of 13 companies is the largest foreign national group at this show. They are being sponsored by the BOTB again in conjunction with the Ship and Boat Builders Federation.

These two shows are complementary. The Gothenburg display covers the West Coast and the Stockholm event the East of Sweden and Finland. Although buyers will be mostly from the Scandinavian countries they will also come from other European countries, the USA and Japan. British firms will be showing a comprehensive range of craft and equipment and they expect to gain a substantial share of the growing Scandinavian market. In 1975 total exports of British boats and equipment amounted to £26,700,000 and for Sweden alone £800,000.

Zagreb machine tool fair and seminar

The 3rd International Machine Tool and trade fair, to be held at Zagreb, Yugoslavia from 14-19 June is an annual event which covers all types of machine tools. The range of equipment covered includes the following: metal-working machine tools; chip-removal shaping; wood-working machines; plastic-working machines; tools and accessories for machine tools; tools, devices and accessories for assembly and service workshops; equipment and machinery for mechanical service and maintenance workshops; control devices; drives; and heat treatment equipment.

The fair authorities also propose holding a series of technical seminars in conjunction with this event, the subjects being as the list above.

The BOTB will not be organising a joint venture to this event but further information on this exhibition and seminar may be obtained from the following: Exhibition – Zagrebaki Velesajam, 41021 Zagreb, Avenija Borisa Kidica 22 (tel. 511 666; telex 21385 yu zv zg).

Seminar – Prvomajska Oour Institut za Alatne, Strojeve, 41000 Zagreb, Zitnjakb b, (tel. 214 455).

The country desk contact in the Department's Fairs and Promotions Branch is A. E. Reid, tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 604.

Auto-Zum Salzburg 1976

From D. R. F. Flanagan, Commercial Section, British Embassy, Vienna: Ten British companies participated in a joint venture sponsored by the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, and supported by the BOTB, at Auto-Zum 1976, an exhibition of car and motorcycle parts and accessories and garage equipment held in Salzburg from 22 to 25 January.

This annual event has grown steadily in importance since its first appearance in 1974, and over the four days attracted 17,493 visitors, the vast majority of whom were trade buyers. Visitors from outside Austria came mainly from Southern Germany, but East European countries were well represented, notably by an official delegation from the Soviet Union. There was also a Japanese group of buyers consisting of 26 Japanese manufacturers and dealers. Other visitors came from Italy, Switzerland, Belgium, Holland, Australia and the USA.

The British joint venture was the only one of its kind at the exhibition, and received good publicity prior to the event. The exhibitors were very pleased with the shell stands provided by the BOTB, and although no outstanding volume of orders was reported, the majority were definitely interested in returning to Salzburg next year. The former world-class rally motorist Paddy Hopkirk's presence at the British stands was an added attraction. SMMT are planning to increase the space requirements substantially for Auto-Zum 1977. According to the fair organisers interest has also been expressed by at least three other countries in mounting joint ventures next year. It is worthy of note that besides the joint venture another 50 British firms exhibited through their agents.

The Austrian market has been an important one for British exporters for many years. Exports of parts and equipment exceeded £8 million, in both 1973 and 1974 and statistics indicate an increasing demand for automotive products.

Salzburg, being the centre of the car trade in Austria is ideally suited as a venue for this type of exhibition and geographically is excellently placed to attract trade buyers from further afield.

Building materials in Brussels

Fourteen British companies are exhibiting in a dual trade event in Brussels – the International Building Materials and Accessories Exhibition (Batibouw) and the European Heating, Air Conditioning and Ventilation Exhibition (Euroclima) – from 20-29 February.

The combined event is one of Europe's most important exhibitions for the building industry. The joint venture has been arranged by the BOTB in association with the Building Materials Export Group.

The British companies are showing a wide display of building, heating and ventilating equipment.

European Community News

Direct elections: Government doubts about target date

HMG proposes to play a full part in the preparation of the draft convention on direct elections to the European parliament, but has some doubts about the practicability of the target date – May or June 1978.

In a green paper* published on 17 February, the Government stresses that it regards the introduction of direct elections as an important matter. Consultation with the political parties, it says, was already under way. But debates in Parliament must preceed any firm commitment by the Government to any of the detailed arrangements for, or the timing of, the introduction of direct elections.

Seven of the nine member states have accepted the 1978 target date. But the Government pointed out that all nine member states would require time to decide upon and make legislative provision for the arrangements to be followed in each country, and it remained to be seen whether the work could be completed in time. HMG took the view that the necessary consultations and procedures must be carried out in an orderly way and should not be rushed, but believed that Parliament would want the work to be completed with all reasonable speed.

The consultative document points out that decisions would need to be taken at two different stages, first in the community and then in the UK. Once agreement had been reached on those questions which had to be decided by the nine member states – the draft convention will come up for consideration by the heads of government as their next meeting on 1-2 April – the convention would need to be both signed and ratified, and it would also be necessary to introduce a bill making provision for holding the elections in this country.

Scots and Welsh assemblies

In their consideration of the problem, the Government said the relationship between the question of direct elections to the European parliament and the creation of Scots and Welsh assemblies had naturally been borne in mind.

Their preliminary view was that the issues involved could and should be kept separate, but the timing of direct elections would have to be consistent with the plans which the Government was considering for setting up these assemblies. In order to avoid any possible complications or conflicting arrangements, the Government had undertaken to ensure that at every stage those who were working on the two questions should remain in close touch.

Progress to date

Part I of the green paper covers the progress to date on the direct elections issue and the timing of future developments, including the April summit.

The Government stresses that it was not committed to any of the ideas so far put forward as far as the contents of the draft direct elections convention were concerned.

It explains that, as a result of discussions on the draft convention by the council working group, it had become clear that it would be unwise at this stage to try to implement Article 138(3) of the Treaty of Rome by attempting to lay down a uniform electoral procedure in all the member states. The consensus was that as many questions as possible should be left to national decision, including the fundamental question of the electoral system to be used for each member state (see below).

The paper also points out that there were no specific proposals before the council at the present time for granting increased powers to the European parliament.

Community decisions

Part II of the green paper deals with the important issues which will need to be resolved on a community-wide basis. Subject to the views of Parliament, the Government proposes to participate in discussions on these issues at the April meeting of the European council.

The most difficult issue concerned the size and composition of the new parliament. The Government's own preliminary view was that a parliament of about the size (355 members) put forward in the parliament's own convention would be acceptable, subject to the provision of a certain level of minimum representation for smaller member states, in particular Luxembourg. On the other hand, the relationship between the representation of smaller states and that of the constituent parts of the larger members ought to be taken into account.

In considering the number of seats to be allocated to the UK and other member countries, HMG would aim for a solution which tended, as far as possible, in the direction of relating the number of seats to population. The distribution of the UK's allocation of seats (the draft convention proposes an allocation of 67) would be a matter for national decision.

As to the question of whether the elections should be held simultaneously throughout the community, the Government believes that on balance it seems best to have the whole parliament elected at the same time – that is, within a few days to allow for different national traditions about the appropriate day for voting – for a fixed period, rather than waiting for national elections.

The paper says that there was much to be said for the parliament having its own distinct life-span – and the Government accepted the five-year proposal. If national groups were elected at different times, this would be likely to have an undesirable effect on the smooth functioning of the parliament. And it would be difficult for the political parties to give due attention to European parliament elections if they were simultaneously fighting a national election.

The Government saw an advantage in holding the elections in May at the same time as local authority elections in the UK, if this could be conveniently arranged.

Another issue to be decided at community level was the question of dual mandate, or whether European parliament members should at the same time be members of national parliaments, as is the case at the moment. The Government shares the view that the dual mandate should be optional, according to the wishes of the candidates. The existing arrangements, it says, impose a heavy burden on those members who carry out seriously their responsibilities in both parliaments. But, against this, it has been argued that it would be desirable to maintain close links between the national and European parliaments.

The electoral system

In its third and final part the green paper turns to the question of the electoral system and procedures which, it is proposed, should be decided individually by the governments and parliaments of each member state.

On the distribution of the UK's allocation of seats, it points out that there would be fewer constituencies than for Westminster, and they would be much larger. The Govern-

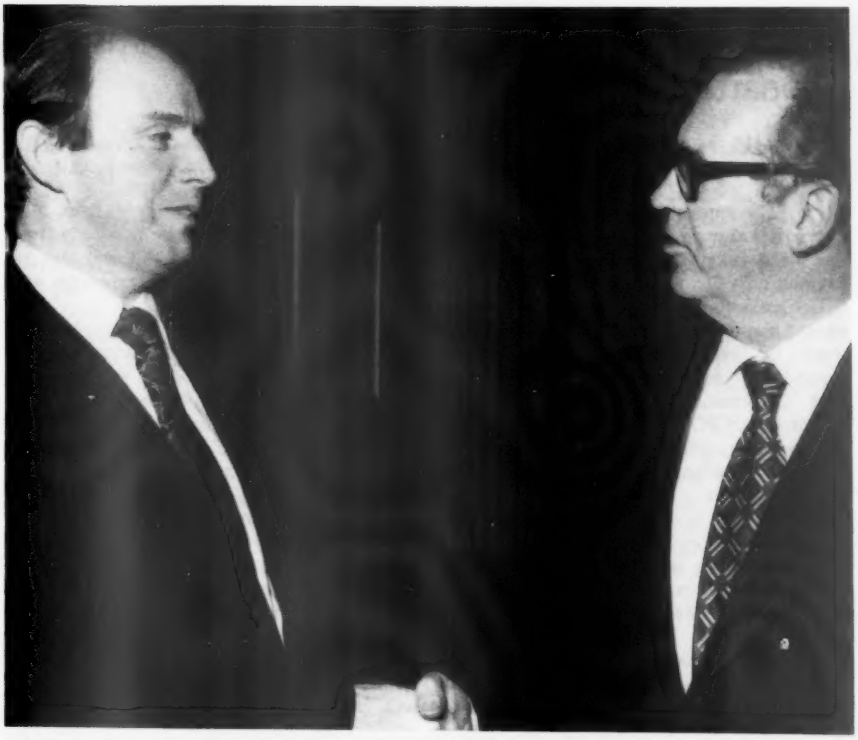
* *Direct Elections to the European Assembly* Cmnd. 6399. HMSO 38p.

ment's intention here would be to maintain the electoral integrity of the several parts of the UK.

In ordinary circumstances, the paper says, it would seem appropriate for the Parliamentary Boundary Commissions to be responsible for reviewing and making recommendations about the boundaries of the European parliament constituencies. But if the general community view was in favour of holding the first elections in 1978 and if Parliament concluded that the UK ought to participate at the same time, special arrangements for drawing the initial boundaries would probably be needed.

This part of the document also considers the questions of franchise and candidature, and the conduct of elections. On the conduct of the poll and the count, the object would be to minimise expenditure by making as much use as possible of existing facilities and expertise.

Some, but not all, of the new arrangements required would involve legislation. Legal provision would be required for the results of elections conducted under national rules and procedures to be made open to challenge in UK courts on grounds of electoral irregularities, whatever arrangements might be introduced by the parliament itself for confirming members' credentials. But political parties, for example, would want to consider the local arrangements to be made for the selection of candidates and handling the campaign.



Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Industry, pictured with George Thomson (right), EEC commissioner responsible for regional policy. Together with Renato Ruggiero, Director-General of the commission's regional policy directorate-general, they met on 17 February for talks about community regional policy and the question of British access to the EEC Regional Development Fund.

Finance ministers discuss EIB external loans policy

The future external lending policy of the European Investment Bank was discussed by EEC Finance Ministers on 16 February.

Meeting in their capacity as governors of the bank, with the British Chancellor of the Exchequer in the chair, ministers considered the prospective level of bank loans to associated countries of the community in the context of the total EIB programme and priorities for lending within the community.

Following the EIB discussion, ministers convened in council under the chairmanship of the Luxembourg Finance Minister, Raymond Vouel, and agreed that the commission should conclude a contract with a Middle-Eastern oil producer for a loan of $300 million under the Joint Community Loans Scheme on behalf of Ireland. The council also authorised the commission to begin negotiations under the same scheme for a $1,000 million borrowing on Italy's behalf.

Also on the agenda was a Dutch proposal for tighter community co-ordination of export credit policy to prevent wasteful competition.

Mr. Healey accepted that it was in everyone's interest to avoid wasteful competition in credit terms. Solutions depended on agreement with the USA and Japan.

During discussions on the possible introduction of a minimum price system for steel products within the community under Article 61(6) of the European Coal and Steel Community Treaty, ministers agreed that there should be further consultation between the council and the commission on the level of prices in this sector.

Earlier, during the ministers' working lunch, the Chancellor of the Exchequer proposed that finance ministers should meet informally within the next month or two to discuss the problem of unemployment in the medium term.

Mr. Healey explained afterwards that many countries were concerned that they might not achieve the same level of full employment in the next economic upturn as they had in the last. The discussions would cover ways of achieving this, 'recognising that it can't be done inside the community alone. It might require a joint community approach to some international problems, particularly the way in which the developed world reacts to price increases for the commodities produced by the third world.'

Lomé Convention to enter into force on 1 April

With all the necessary conditions for the entry into force of the Lomé Convention now completed by the African, Pacific and Caribbean signatories, as well as by members of the community, the convention will enter into force in one month's time on 1 April.

Article 87 of the convention provides for its entry into force on the first day of the second month following the deposit of two-thirds of the instruments of ratification of the 46 ACP states and the last instrument of ratification of the nine members of the community.

On 17 February, Italy's ratification of the convention completed the process on the community side, while Kenya became the 42nd ACP state to complete the procedure.

The convention was signed on 28 February last year.

More on the EEC

Information on EEC matters and about member states can often be found in other sections of *Trade and Industry*. For this week's additional news, turn to the following pages:

Parliament

EEC Regional Development Fund 581
EEC regulations on financial assistance 581
Committee of Inquiry into Industrial Democracy 581

Exhibitions and Fairs

Brussels – building materials 587

Trade Information

'Opportunity Germany' seminar 599

Tariff and Trade Notices

France: braking regulations for goods vehicles 601

Statistics

Registrations of British, community and foreign films 610

Community funds for developing countries' exposition in London

The EEC commission has agreed to fund an international exposition and marketing seminar for developing countries to be held in London next October.

Designed to enable developing countries around the world to exhibit and market their goods in Britain, the exposition – London Impo-Expo – is being arranged by the Import Opportunities Office for Developing Countries (DCIOO), which was set up late in 1973 with Government support as part of this country's programme of assistance to developing countries.

The event will take place at the London World Trade Centre and current plans envisage 35 stands for the different countries taking part. Over 20 developing countries have already expressed an interest in participating.

In addition to the exposition there will be a marketing seminar held in conjunction with the Institute of Marketing to provide training for delegates in export marketing. The Unctad Gatt International Trade Centre in Geneva will also provide assistance for the exposition.

London Impo-Expo and the marketing seminar will last for three weeks, from 3-23 October. Participants will be primarily from the private business sector, but will also include representatives from governments and official bodies.

Among the products to be displayed will be leather goods, horticultural products, processed foods, alcoholic and non-alcoholic drinks, timber and plywood products, rubber and plastic goods, sports goods, tools and hardware, furniture, handicrafts – such as jewellery, carvings, paintings and handmade goods – and textiles, yarns and garments.

Invitations to the exposition will be sent through the London Chamber of Commerce to major UK importers, members of chambers of commerce, and other interested manufacturers and businessmen.

The European commission will provide funds to bring to Britain two export executives from every participating country and will provide their accommodation in this country for the duration of the event. The cost of shipping or airfreighting exhibits to the UK from the developing countries will also be covered.

EEC tariff quota for rum, arrack and tafia from OCTs

The notice in the 16 January 1976 issue of *Trade and Industry* (pages 156-58) listing EEC tariff quotas in which the United Kingdom is participating in 1976, stated that a tariff quota for rum, arrack and tafia of tariff heading 22.09.C.I from the Overseas Countries and Territories of the EEC was expected to be opened at a later date.

A tariff quota is now being opened for the period 1 March to 30 June 1976. (A further quota is expected to be opened to cover the year from 1 July 1976 to 30 June 1977.) The EEC Regulation is No. 287/1976 and is published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* (L37, 12 February 1976), obtainable from HMSO.

The United Kingdom's share of this tariff quota is 3 hectolitres of pure alcohol (116 proofgallons). The goods entered under this quota will be free of customs duty, ie only excise duty will be payable. Qualifying imports will be debited against the tariff quota in the order in which any importer enters them for home use on and after 1 March 1976 and claims relief from duty. (Customs Notice 771 and amendments, obtainable free from any Customs House or Office of HM Customs and Excise, explains how claims should be made.)

Any inquiries about this notice should be addressed to General Division 2, Department of Trade, Room 333, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ. Inquiries about how much the quota has been used should be made to the Tariff Quota Registration Unit, HM Customs and Excise, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE, tel. 01-626 1515, ext. 2570.

Temporary suspension of the common customs tariff

In the 2 January 1976 issue of *Trade and Industry* (page 40), the Department of Trade gave notice of applications which had been made to the EEC commission for new suspensions of the CCT relative to the period 1 July 1976 to 30 June, 1977.

Notice is now given of a further request put forward, this is in respect of:

ex 30.04 Reinforced sterile surgical tape

Representations concerning this proposal

Interested parties who wish to make representations concerning this proposal should send them in writing to the Department of Trade, General Division, Room 332, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, not later than 12 March 1976. Tel: 01-215 3576.

Suspension of CCT – parts and components for aeroplanes and helicopters

Unladen weight not exceeding 2,000kg.
In the 19 December 1975 issue of *Trade and Industry* the Department of Trade announced that the suspension of EEC common customs tariff duties on parts and components for the construction of aeroplanes and helicopters in the weight range indicated above would be reviewed in 1976.

Applications submitted

Applications for total CCT duty suspensions have now been submitted to the EEC commission for the items set out in the schedule below where they relate to the construction of the Agusta 109 helicopter.

If any United Kingdom company considers that they could now, or in the near future, manufacture and supply any of the listed parts or components and that a suspension of the CCT would be detrimental to their interests they should send details to the Department of Trade, General Division, Kingsgate House, 66-74 Victoria Street, London SW1E 6SJ, tel. 01-215 5512, not later than 15 March 1976.

SCHEDULE

CCT tariff heading	Description of goods
84.62	Ball, roller or needle roller bearings: for the landing gear assembly for the main structure for the fixed controls for the transmission for the engine controls
85.15 A I	Radio apparatus and equipment, as follows:
A II	VHF/AM VHF-20
B	ADF DF-206 VOR/ILS VIR-31/A TDR-90 type transponder ALT-50 radio altimeter
90.28 A	Electrical instruments and apparatus:
B	vertical gyroscope system 9000C gyrocompass

EEC information

Free service for businessmen!
The EEC Information Unit helps firms of all types and sizes by answering general questions about EEC membership and by guiding them where necessary to more specialised information sources.
New customers are always welcome, particularly firms new to EEC questions.
The unit's address is:
EEC Information Unit,
Department of Industry,
1 Victoria Street,
London SW1H 0ET.
Tel. 01-215 4301 (six lines).

Agricultural price fixing talks continue

Continuing their discussions on the fixing of agricultural prices for 1976-77, EEC agriculture ministers examined the most important problems in a number of specific product sectors at their council on 16-17 February.

The object was to identify more accurately the key problems in these separate areas – they included cereals, milk and milk products, beef and veal, and oil and fats – if an overall solution was to be worked out at the next meeting.

In the cereals sector, for example, the problem concerns the distinction between wheat of bread-making quality and fodder wheat, durum wheat and the prices of other cereals and rice, while in the milk sector the main issue is absorbing the surpluses and, for beef and veal, the question of the system of guarantees to be provided.

Noting that these problems would require considerable thought and complicated technical preparations before a solution could be reached, ministers agreed to postpone their next meeting from 23-24 February to 2-3 March.

The next meeting will now take place after the close of the 1975-76 milk year and the council have therefore extended the milk year by two weeks. It will now close on 14 March. Intervention agencies making purchases in the milk sector from 1-14 March will pay vendors, over and above the purchase price for the 1975-76 milk year, a sum equal to the difference between that purchase price and the purchase price for the beginning of the 1976-77 milk year.

The council has also fixed 14 March as the end of the marketing year for beef and veal and, without prejudice to its final decisions in this field, it has authorised the grant to producers of adult bovine animals of a national premium of 77.06 units of account from 1-14 March.

If ministers should adopt a new system of premiums for the 1976-77 marketing year similar to those provided for in Regulation 464/75, the rules laid down for the financing of these premiums will be applied in a similar fashion to the corresponding premiums applicable during the period 1-14 March 1976.

On the system of premiums for the birth of calves, the council has agreed that this should be continued until the end of the marketing year (4 April), as laid down initially.

Tax on potato exports

Due to the problems of securing potato supplies for the community market, the council adopted a regulation imposing a tax on exports of ware potatoes and on non-certified seed potatoes to non-member countries. The tax amounts to 25 ua/100kg.

EEC loans and grants for NCB

Details about finance received by the National Coal Board from the European coal and steel community and the European Investment Bank were given in the Commons by Alex Eadie, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at the Department of Energy, on 19 February.

Replying to a question from Tom Urwin, member for Houghton le Spring, Mr. Eadie explained that NCB had so far received a total of £128 million in grants and loans from these two sources.

The figures, he said, demonstrated the success of NCB's policy to seek the maximum possible assistance for all eligible projects.

Details of loans and grants received from the ECSC were as follows:

Horden/Blackhall	Dinnington	
Littleton	Blaenant	
Trentham	Betteshanger	
Royston	Lynemouth/Ellington	
Betws	Markham	
Easington	Bentinck	
Thoresby	Hucknall	
Haig	Maltby	
Coalfield Farm	Silverwood	
Ollerton	Frickley/South Elmsall	
Taff Merthyr/Merthyr Vale	Longannet (Bogside)	
Thurcroft	Golborne	£63.4 million
Loans for powered roof supports and other underground plant and machinery		£58.2 million
Loans for improvements to miners' houses		£1.6 million
Grants for research and development on mining technology and coal utilisation		£2.3 million
Grants to assist redundant mineworkers		£2.0 million

Feoga helps finance new fisheries centre

A full-length view of the 154,000-gallon capacity flume tank at the White Fish Authority's new fisheries training centre in Hull. The tank facility – the largest of its kind in the world – enables large-scale models of trawls and other types of fishing gear to be demonstrated and tested so that fishermen can see how their trawls behave under operational conditions below the surface of the sea. Finance for the £350,000 centre, which was opened by Minister of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food Fred Peart on 27 February, came from Feoga, the European agricultural guidance and guarantee fund, as well as from a number of sources in this country

New EC legislation

The legislation listed below has been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* as indicated against each item. The *Official Journal* is now published in English and copies should be obtained from HMSO. Information about the items listed, in so far as other member states' requirements are concerned, is available to British exporters from Department of Trade, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7174/482/408). Other information may be obtained from the reference point given at the end of the item.

Common agricultural policy

The texts of the following regulations which affect the various agricultural sectors in the EEC have been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities*:

Cattle, beef and veal. Regulation (EEC) 242/76 amending Regulation (EEC) 320/73 for the sixth time as regards the list of representative markets for adult bovine animals (*Official Journal* L29, 4 February 1976).

Regulation (EEC) 283/76 correcting Regulation (EEC) 76/76 setting up a system linking imports of beef and veal products effected by way of protective measures with the sale of beef held by intervention agencies (*Official Journal* L36, 11 February 1976).

Fish and fish products. The *Official Journal* C27, 7 February 1976, contains a list of the recognised producers' organisations in the fishery sector. This list, which shows the situation at 1 July 1975, is published in accordance with Article 6 of Regulation (EEC) 170/71 (*Official Journal* L23, 29 January 1971).

Cereals and rice. Regulation (EEC) 306/76 redefining the destination zones for export refunds or levies on cereals and rice (*Official Journal* L38, 13 February 1976).

Corrigendum. The *Official Journal* L35, 10 February 1976, contains the following correction to Regulation (EEC) 2731/75 (published in *Official Journal* L281, 1 November 1975) fixing standard qualities for common wheat, rye, barley, maize and durum wheat:

Page 22:

The last recital is hereby deleted.

Sugar. Regulation (EEC) 282/76 repealing Regulation (EEC) 249/74 discontinuing the periodic fixing of export refunds on white sugar and raw sugar (*Official Journal* L36, 11 February 1976).

Common customs tariff

The *Official Journal* L37, 12 February 1976, contains the text of Regulation (EEC) 288/76 temporarily and totally suspending until 28 March 1976, the common customs tariff duties for seed potatoes falling within subheading 07.01 A I and new potatoes falling within subheading 07.01 A II a).

Imports from non-member states

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L32, 6 February 1976, contains the text of Decision 76/175/EEC authorising Italy not to apply community treatment to cathode-ray tubes for 20-in colour television sets falling within subheading 85.21 A ex III of the common customs tariff, originating in Japan and in free circulation in the other member states.

The *Official Journal of the European Communities* L38, 13 February 1976, contains the text of Decision 76/200/EEC authorising Belgium, Luxembourg and the Netherlands not to apply community treatment to men's and boys' shirts falling within heading ex 61.03, originating in Taiwan and in free circulation in Germany.

ACP/EEC Convention of Lomé

The text of the ACP/EEC Convention of Lomé which was signed on 28 February 1975 and related agreements have now been published in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* L25, 30 January 1976, as follows:

Regulation (EEC) No. 199/76 of 30 January 1976 on the conclusion of the ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé

ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé

Protocol No. 1 concerning the definition of the concept of 'originating products' and methods of administrative co-operation

Protocol No. 2 on the application of financial and technical co-operation

Protocol Nol 3 on ACP sugar

Protocol No. 4 on the operating expenditure of the institutions

Protocol No. 5 on privileges and immunities

Protocol No. 6 on bananas

Protocol No. 7 on rum

Annex: joint declaration on fishing activities

Final Act

76/163/ECSC:

Agreement on products within the province of the European coal and steel community

76/164/EEC:

Internal agreement on the measures and procedures required for implementation of the ACP-EEC Convention of Lomé

76/165/EEC:

Internal agreement on the financing and administration of community aid

Copies of this *Official Journal* may be obtained from HMSO, price £2.20 (plus 21p postage).

Tariff quotas 1976 – exhaustions

HM Customs have stated that the United Kingdom's shares of the following EEC tariff quotas have been exhausted:

UK tariff heading	Description of goods	HM Customs serial No. (Part 11 of the UK tariff)
ex 73.02 EI	Ferro-chromium containing 0.1% or less by weight of carbon and more than 30% but not more than 90% inclusive of chromium	4525
78.01 AII	Unwrought lead	4746
79.01 A	Unwrought zinc	4754

The United Kingdom's share of the following EEC tariff quota for imports from Turkey has also been exhausted:

UK tariff heading	Description of goods	HM Custom's serial No. (Part 11 of the UK tariff)
55.05	Cotton yarn not put up for retail sale	3481

The following United Kingdom tariff quota for imports of paper and board and printed products from individual EFTA countries and Finland (see *Trade and Industry* of 12 December 1975) has also been exhausted:

UK tariff heading	Country of origin	HM Customs serial No. (Part 11 of the UK tariff)
All goods of Ch.48, not covered by a separate quota excluding goods of subheading 48.01A and heading 48.09	Portugal	2966

Inquiries about current tariff quota balances may be made to HM Customs, Central Tariff Quota Registration Unit, King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE, tel. 01-626 1515, ext. 2570.

Generalised tariff preference scheme – restoration of normal duties

In *Trade and Industry* of 5 September and 19 December 1975 general information was given about the generalised tariff preference scheme (GSP) for 1976. Details of the scheme can be found in the *Official Journal of the European Communities* (L 310 of 29 November 1975)*.

Under the GSP the restoration of normal duties (after the exhaustion of UK quota shares, the reaching of butoirs, ceilings and inner ceilings) may occur at short notice. Importers wishing to be sure whether the preferences are still available should contact HM Customs and Excise at King's Beam House, Mark Lane, London EC3R 7HE, tel. 01-626 1515, ext. 2570. (Parts 10B and 11 of HM Customs Tariff relate to GSP and tariff quota arrangements.)

It is intended to continue the practice of publishing in *Trade and Industry* a monthly summary based on the latest available information from Customs. However importers can always obtain more up to date information from Customs; even then of course no assurance can be given that the preferences will still be available when imported goods are cleared for home use; the normal rates of duty may have been restored in the meantime.

* Copies of the *Official Journal* may now be obtained from any Government Bookshop or direct from HM Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London, SE1. (Present price, post included, £1.48).

The position on the restoration of normal duties as at 9 February was as follows:

I TARIFF QUOTAS AND SPECIAL CEILINGS

Tariff heading		Description of goods	Customs quota reference*	Date UK quota share exhausted	Community butoir reached: duty to be re-imposed	
					On date	For goods from
51.04		Woven fabrics of mmf (continuous) incl. woven fabrics of monofil or strip of heading no. 51.01 or 51.02	3465	5.2.76		
ex 55.09	A	Other woven fabrics of cotton: containing 85% or more by weight of cotton: —Unbleached, of a width of				
	I	less than 85cm	3686	28.1.76		
	II	—85cm-115cm	3694	5.1.76**		
	II	—more than 115cm and up to 165cm	3708	5.1.76**		
	II	—more than 165cm	3716	5.1.76**		
	II	—Other than unbleached	3724	5.1.76**		
56.05	A	Yarn of mmf – of synthetic textile fibres	3821	13.1.76	6.2.76	South Korea
56.07	A	Woven fabrics of mmf (discontinuous or waste): of synthetic textile fibres	3856	6.1.76***		
60.05	All	Outer garments and other articles:				
	B	—Other than of cotton	4096	6.1.76		
61.01		Men's, boys' outer garments – other than of cotton	4134	5.1.76**	6.2.76	South Korea
61.02		Women's, girls' and infants' outer garments				
		—Of woven fabrics of cotton	4142	5.1.76		
		—Other than of cotton	4282	5.1.76**		
62.02		Bed linen, table linen, etc. – Of woven fabrics of cotton	4193	5.1.76**	6.2.76	India
64.01		Footwear with outer soles and uppers of rubber or artificial plastic material	4479	5.1.76**	6.2.76	Hong Kong
64.02	B	Footwear with outer soles of leather, etc.	4258	7.1.76	6.2.76	Hong Kong
66.01 (S/C)		Umbrellas and sun-shades	4312		29.1.76	Hong Kong
90.05 (S/C)		Refracting telescopes	5016		29.1.76	South Korea
97.02 (S/C)		Dolls	5105		6.2.76	Hong Kong
97.03 (S/C)		Other toys, etc.	5172		6.2.76	Hong Kong

* See HM Customs Tariff, Part 11
** A proportional allocation was made to all claims received up to noon on this date.
*** A proportional allocation was made to all claims received up to 14.00 hrs on this date.
S/C denotes Special Ceiling.

II CEILINGS

Tariff heading	Description of goods	Date of restoration of duties	
		From all sources	From particular sources (inner ceilings)
29.23 DIII	Glutamic acid and its salts	31.1.76	South Korea 13.1.76
69.08	Glazed setts, flags and paving, hearth and wall tiles, etc.		South Korea 31.1.76
82.14 A	Spoons, forks, fish-eaters, etc. —Of stainless steel		South Korea 25.1.76

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Britain's National Computing Centre and its French and West German equivalents (CTI/IRIA and GMD) have signed an agreement to work together in supporting the responsible national standard-setting bodies and the European commission in establishing standards in computing. The picture shows the representatives of the three organisations signing the agreement in London; from left to right, Nicolas Malagardis (CTI/IRIA), Anthony Chandor (NCC) and Friedrich von Sydow (GMD).

Economic Indicators of the EEC

These tables have been prepared for the convenience of users who do not have access to the sources themselves; international publications (as indicated) have been used, supplemented by later reports where possible. In addition to the member states of the EEC, the United States and Japan have been included for comparison.

The form of presentation adopted – indicators by subject – is for convenience only, and it must not be assumed that the indicators in the same table for different countries are strictly comparable. An attempt has been made to indicate major differences of definition, but the coverage and methods of collection vary considerably; this is partly due to different administrative procedures in various countries. Fuller details may be obtained from the sources indicated, and from the national publications of the countries concerned.

At extensive bibliography – 'Sources of Statistics: 2. The European Economic Community' – which lists publications in the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library of the Department of Trade, is obtainable on request to the library at Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 368). 'Statistical News' No. 21 (May 1973), published by the Central Statistical Office, contains a selected bibliography of statistical publications of the commission of the European communities.

TABLE 1 Industrial Production (Excluding construction) Seasonally adjusted — Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium	Luxembourg	France[1]	German F.R.	Ireland[2]	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom	EEC[3]	*United States*	*Japan*
Weights in EEC	3.9	0.3	18.1	39.9	0.6	13.3	4.5	19.4	100.0	—	—
Weights in total	1.3	0.1	6.0	13.2	0.2	4.4	1.5	6.4	33.1	*43.3*	*11.9*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	103	99	104	102	105	100	106	100	102	*100*	*103*
1972	109	103	112	106	109	104	111	102	106	*108*	*110*
1973	116	115	120	113	119	114	118	111	115	*118*	*127*
1974	120	119	123	112	123	119	121	108	116 (e)	*117*	*124*
1975								103			
1974 1st quarter	122	124	125	114	127	123	122	105	116	*117*	*130*
2nd quarter	122	119	126	113	124	125	122	110	117	*118*	*127*
3rd quarter	121	120	126	112	121	119	123	110	116	*118*	*122*
4th quarter	116	114	118	109	119	111	120	107	111	*114*	*115*
1975 1st quarter	111	103	114	106	116	110	117	106	109	*105*	*106*
2nd quarter	108	92	111	103	115	106	114	101	105	*103*	*110*
3rd quarter	103	83	111	102	114	105	111	101	104	*107*	*113*
4th quarter								102			
1974 August	119	118	129	111		112	125	111	115	*117*	*121*
September	122	121	122	112		123	124	109	116	*118*	*121*
October	121	120	122	111		117	122	108	114	*117*	*118*
November	118	115	117	110		111	122	108	113	*114*	*115*
December	111	107	114	106		106	116	106	108	*110*	*112*
1975 January	115	104	115	104		110	116	108	108	*107*	*107*
February	113	102	115	105		113	116	107	109	*104*	*105*
March	109	102	112	107		107	118	105	108	*103*	*105*
April	111	92	112	101		109	113	103	105	*103*	*109*
May	104	86	108	105		102	114	101	105	*103*	*110*
June	110	96	113	103		108	114	101	106	*104*	*111*
July	103	90	111	98		109	108	102	103	*105*	*114*
August	97	61	111	104		97	111	100	103	*107*	*112*
September	109	96	111	105		108	114	101	105	*109*	*114*
October	110	89	112	106		110	114	103	107	*109*	*114*
November	108	100	112	109		111	121	103		*110*	*112*
December			116 (e)	106 (e)				102		*111*	
1976 January										*112* (e)	
% change latest three months:											
On previous three months	5.5	15.4	2.1	4.6	−0.9	4.8	4.80	1.99	0.3	*2.5*	*0.9*
On a year earlier	−9.2	−19.9	−3.7	−1.8	−5.3	−6.3	−5.2	−4.4	−8.7	*0.6*	*−4.0*

[1] Excluding clothing, wood products and furniture. [2] Mining and manufacturing only. [3] Excluding Denmark. (e) Estimated.

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

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TABLE 2 Unemployment seasonally adjusted

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium[1,2]	Den-mark[1,3]	France[2,4]	German F.R.[5]	Ireland[1]	Italy[6]	Nether-lands[2,5]	Great Britain[5]	*United States*[6]	*Japan*[7]
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	100	125	129	126	100	100	135	129	*122*	*111*
1972	123	125	145	166	114	113	235	142	*118*	*119*
1973	130	84	150	184	104	109	239	102	*105*	*107*
1974	148	186	190	391	114	91	293	101	*124*	*117*
1975								157		
1974 1st quarter	131	81	168	287	102	89	263	96	*115*	*107*
2nd quarter	137	135	169	375	110	86	270	97	*114*	*111*
3rd quarter	151	208	181	468	117	90	302	104	*123*	*118*
4th quarter	172	323	235	553	133	98	337	107	*148*	*143*
1975 1st quarter	199	420	279	558	164	90	378	123	*187*	*152*
2nd quarter	239	423	319	811	179	118	413	143	*201*	*180*
3rd quarter	269	410	335	902	186	106	450	170	*191*	*196*
4th quarter								190		
1974 August	148	205	177	466	114		304	105	*120*	*118*
September	158	247	190	510	121		311	106	*130*	*121*
October	166	303	213	546	126	98	324	107	*136*	*130*
November	172	327	240	566	133		343	108	*147*	*142*
December	179	338	252	548	140		354		*162*	*156*
1975 January	186	426	267	505	157	90	367	119	*184*	*149*
February	197	403	278	556	167		378	124	*183*	*151*
March	213	434	292	613	169		389	127	*195*	*156*
April	227	451	304	744	174	118	407	134	*200*	*161*
May	239	418	319	812	179		411	144	*209*	*165*
June	254	399	335	877	183		420	152	*193*	*167*
July	258	355	338	894	186	106	439	165	*192*	*194*
August	269	433	330	901	183		450	170	*191*	*195*
September	280	445	337	912	188		456	176	*190*	*199*
October	297	454	344	855	190	113 (e)	459	184	*196*	*200*
November	297	448	353	783	190		459	190	*188*	*199*
December	293	489	352	706			480	197	*190*	*200*
1976 January			354 (e)	747 (e)				204	*178* (e)	
Rate %[8]	5.3	4.7	4.3	4.1	7.0	3.3	4.6	4.6	*8.4*	*1.9*
% change latest three months										
On previous three months	9.9	12.8	4.7	−16.2	2.9	−10.2	3.9	11.51	*−3.6*	*1.9*
On a year earlier	71.6	43.7	39.5	38.1	49.5	17.8	36.9	77.0	*12.8*	*40.0*

Note: Figures of total unemployment and unemployment rates are very sensitive to the particular measures used and the sources from which they are obtained. The figures in this table to a large extent reflect the different administrative systems and social-security provisions of the countries concerned.

[1] Insured unemployed. [2] Change of basis during period. [3] Monthly data are weekly averages. [4] Unfilled applications. [5] GB percent change on year is estimated.
[6] Based on results of sample survey. [7] Unemployment-insurance beneficiaries.
[8] Numbers in latest month available as % of total employees (UK) and of total labour force (others) (1970). (e) Estimated.

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.
GB source: 'Monthly Digest of Statistics'.

TABLE 3 Exports (fob) Special trade[1], seasonally adjusted

US$ million[4]

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Den-mark[2]	France	German F.R.	Ireland[2]	Italy	Nether-lands	United King-dom[2]	EEC	*United States*[2]	*Japan*[3]
1970	11,592	3,288	17,940	34,188	1,032	13,188	11,772	19,356	112,356	*43,224*	*19,320*
1971	12,081	3,609	20,592	39,009	1,308	15,177	13,953	22,356	128,084	*44,211*	*23,994*
1972	15,995	4,330	25,739	46,208	1,610	18,535	16,392	24,340	153,152	*49,676*	*28,591*
1973	22,317	6,129	35,948	67,701	2,127	22,188	23,946	28,862	210,645	*71,622*	*36,834*
1974	28,137	7,725	45,835	89,085	2,634	30,147	32,496 (e)	37,180	275,076	*98,763*	*55,278*
1975								41,722			
1974 1st quarter	6,255	1,779	10,452	20,571	597	6,621	7,176	7,936	61,695	*22,326*	*11,442*
2nd quarter	7,311	1,887	11,208	22,761	636	7,197	8,154	9,607	69,066	*24,402*	*13,911*
3rd quarter	7,260	1,977	11,895	22,386	666	8,136	8,559	9,922	71,265	*25,281*	*14,445*
4th quarter	7,296	2,088	12,465	23,337	738	8,181	8,646	9,746	72,849	*26,706*	*15,396*
1975 1st quarter	7,893	2,199	13,557	23,625	771	8,712	8,928	10,830	77,061	*26,850*	*14,907*
2nd quarter	7,035	2,193	13,317	23,133	756	8,454	8,532	10,402	74,355	*25,795*	*13,842*
3rd quarter	6,408	2,055	12,441	21,060	795	8,679	7,863	9,886	69,696	*27,135*	*13,164*
4th quarter								10,479			
1974 August	2,523	648	3,966	7,578	221	2,606	2,556	3,401	23,540	*6,447*	*5,004*
September	2,339	669	4,039	7,197	208	2,643	2,861	3,526	23,577	*8,460*	*4,664*
October	2,337	674	3,876	7,401	223	2,680	2,793	3,376	23,365	*8,698*	*5,353*
November	2,514	731	4,054	8,076	249	2,671	2,733	3,016	24,252	*9,159*	*5,246*
December	2,307	677	4,537	7,796	269	2,898	2,985	3,228	24,883	*8,841*	*4,898*
1975 January	2,640	732	4,427	7,962	284	2,713	3,041	3,712	25,683	*9,419*	*5,163*
February	2,783	748	4,669	7,977	264	2,887	2,971	3,475	26,027	*8,846*	*4,911*
March	2,421	684	4,339	7,180	215	2,914	2,823	3,794	24,542	*8,749*	*4,641*
April	2,445	809	4,550	8,222	278	2,763	3,171	3,287	25,654	*8,610*	*4,789*
May	2,285	706	4,310	7,354	265	2,785	2,722	3,742	24,415	*8,414*	*4,571*
June	2,388	749	4,581	8,169	221	2,921	2,857	3,384	25,442	*8,788*	*4,481*
July	2,053	707	4,186	7,224	266	2,799	2,655	3,418	23,459	*8,896*	*4,423*
August	2,240	671	4,142	6,704	263	3,031	2,499	3,149	22,883	*9,119*	*4,420*
September	2,116	678	4,114	7,142	265	2,848	2,708	3,298	23,356	*9,147*	*4,320*
October	2,271	806	4,148	7,200	316	2,918	3,008	3,563	24,450	*9,303*	*4,771*
November		725	4,315	7,764	277	3,182	2,579 (e)	3,365	24,398 (e)	*9,527*	*4,365* (e)
December			4,638 (e)	7,863 (e)	227 (e)			3,550		*9,325* (e)	
1976 January					219 (e)						
% change in dollar terms latest three months											
On previous three months	−1.5	3.9	5.3	8.3	−14.3	2.3	3.6	+5.3	0.6	*3.8*	*1.0*
On a year earlier	−8.0	6.5	5.1	−1.9	−9.9	11.9	−1.1	+5.8	1.4	*5.5*	*−11.8*
% change in national currencies latest three months											
On previous three months	−0.4	6.3	6.8	9.0	−12.1	6.5	3.9	8.0	7.9	*3.8*	*1.9*
On a year earlier	−1.0	13.6	3.9	4.5	3.7	20.9	5.7	21.7	10.3	*5.5*	*−10.9*

[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2] General trade. [3] Weighted average of percentage changes in national currencies.
[4] All values are expressed in US dollars, making use of IMF parity rates as quoted in 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.
(e) estimated.

Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade
All others: 'OECD Series "A"'

TABLE 4 Imports (cif) Special trade[1], seasonally adjusted

US$ million*

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Den-mark[2]	France	German F.R.	Ireland[2]	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom[2]	EEC	*United States[2, 3]*	*Japan[2]*
1970	11,352	4,380	19,116	29,808	1,572	14,940	13,392	21,720	116,280	*39,960*	*18,876*
1971	12,390	4,476	21,261	34,356	1,838	16,026	15,159	23,897	129,403	*45,633*	*19,716*
1972	14,903	4,986	26,696	39,759	2,113	19,252	17,127	27,831	152,643	*55,819*	*23,463*
1973	21,762	7,425	37,587	54,465	2,775	27,858	24,419	38,891	215,013	*69,126*	*38,331*
1974	28,890	9,393	52,980	69,006	3,801	41,076	33,288 (e)	54,095	292,989 (e)	*77,420*	*62,034*
1975								53,344			
1974 1st quarter	6,522	2,331	11,973	15,354	834	9,387	7,197	12,024	65,661	*21,615*	*14,265*
2nd quarter	7,578	2,391	13,251	17,436	996	10,203	8,445	14,163	74,511	*24,951*	*15,891*
3rd quarter	7,485	2,331	13,935	17,865	1,023	11,121	8,835	13,897	76,605	*27,189*	*15,819*
4th quarter	7,290	2,337	13,809	18,345	939	10,314	8,817	14,047	75,951	*27,294*	*16,032*
1975 1st quarter	7,479	2,445	14,016	18,618	987	9,273	9,297	13,943	76,056	*25,002*	*14,895*
2nd quarter	7,359	2,415	13,131	18,678	924	9,039	8,760	12,970	73,296	*22,275*	*13,521*
3rd quarter	6,891	2,439	12,777	17,865	894	9,399	8,091	13,070	71,439	*24,303*	*14,436*
4th quarter								13,194			
1974 July	2,675	795	4,786	5,926	354	4,237	3,194	4,751	26,903	*8,792*	*5,543*
August	2,404	810	4,730	6,197	357	3,493	2,732	4,618	25,280	*9,469*	*5,180*
September	2,468	727	4,572	5,734	330	3,494	2,932	4,564	24,969	*8,951*	*4,994*
October	2,349	759	4,514	6,010	308	3,564	2,861	4,760	25,083	*8,732*	*5,220*
November	2,362	788	4,477	6,193	291	3,191	2,872	4,691	24,835	*9,311*	*5,357*
December	2,468	738	4,660	6,031	316	3,454	2,923	4,493	25,214	*9,365*	*5,289*
1975 January	2,440	850	4,742	6,032	339	2,998	3,122	4,984	25,411	*9,831*	*5,173*
February	2,476	850	4,669	6,503	347	2,917	3,094	4,693	25,533	*7,797*	*4,814*
March	2,401	722	4,412	5,741	290	3,167	2,920	4,256	24,015	*7,381*	*4,869*
April	2,597	919	4,549	7,039	326	3,059	3,044	4,375	25,906	*7,917*	*4,610*
May	2,414	809	4,244	5,882	310	2,823	2,886	4,265	23,641	*7,314*	*4,609*
June	2,453	790	4,472	6,222	295	3,234	2,988	4,333	24,797	*7,052*	*4,333*
July	2,267	803	4,294	5,847	302	3,142	2,676	4,439	23,772	*7,805*	*4,823*
August	2,185	805	4,173	5,843	286	2,814	2,544	4,404	23,057	*8,130*	*4,593*
September	2,440	830	4,309	6,174	305	3,443	2,870	4,227	24,609	*8,370*	*5,019*
October	2,456	874	4,644	6,320	308	3,292	2,766	4,395	25,082	*8,212* (e)	*5,098*
November		979	4,897	6,307	350	3,640	2,578 (e)	4,357	25,568 (e)	*8,299* (e)	
December			4,838 (e)	6,641 (e)	311 (e)			4,439		*8,740* (e)	
1976 January					313 (e)			4,426			
% change in dollar terms latest three months											
On previous three months	−0.7	11.9	12.6	7.9	8.3	12.9	0.1	1.5	5.1	*3.9*	*6.9*
On a year earlier	−1.9	18.0	5.3	5.7	2.9	1.2	−5.2	−6.7	0.5	*−7.9*	*−4.4*
% change in national currencies latest three months											
On previous three months	0.3	14.5	14.1	8.6	11.1	17.6	0.4	4.1	9.3	*3.9*	*7.8*
On a year earlier	5.5	25.8	4.1	12.6	18.4	9.3	1.3	7.3	8.9	*−7.9*	*−3.5*

[1] For most purposes special trade may be defined as trade excluding re-exports. [2] General trade. [3] fob. [4] Weighted average of percentage changes in national currencies.
* All values are expressed in US dollars with the use of IMF parity rates as quoted in 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.
(e) estimated.

Source: United Kingdom: Department of Trade. All others: 'OECD Series "A" '.

TABLE 5 Balance of Payments on Current Account

US$ million (unadjusted)

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Den-mark	France	German F.R.	Ireland	Italy	Nether-lands	United Kingdom	EEC	*United States*	*Japan*
1970	724	−544	+297	729	−191	902	−518	1,661	2,470	*−281*	*1,970*
1971	851	−423	530	323	−190	2,041	−233	2,588	5,143	*−3,881*	*5,821*
1972	1,113	−66	297	1,041	−139	2,266	1,050	221	4,314	*−9,714*	*6,624*
1973	1,140	−472	−691	4,349	−216	−2,510	1,750	−5,626	865 (e)	*337*	*−133*
1974	912	−987	−5,943	9,676		−7,817	1,648	−12,248		*−3,362*	*−4,650*
1975								−7,137			
1973 1st quarter	366	−151	−225	565		−669	396	−890		*−311*	*497*
2nd quarter	232	−179	280	1,039		−736	574	−471		*−941*	*−416*
3rd quarter	217	69	−542	826		−14	−41	−603		*−1,087*	*101*
4th quarter	326	−211	−206	1,919		−1,060	822	−1,165		*2,676*	*−315*
1974 1st quarter	340	−519	−1,602	2,783		−2,503	335	−3,195		*1,323*	*−3,274*
2nd quarter	−121	−311	−1,864	2,193		−2,433	405	−3,216		*−1,869*	*−2,377*
3rd quarter	324	−141	−1,930	827		−1,413	478	−2,962		*−4,099*	*−133*
4th quarter	369	−16	−547	3,873		−1,467	429	−2,871		*1,283*	*1,133*
1975 1st quarter	622		−257	2,200		−461	129	−2,476		*3,073*	*−887*
2nd quarter	141		1,064	900		−9	437	−1,584		*3,976*	*−314*
3rd quarter	13			−479			385	−2,044		*961*	*−38*
4th quarter								−1,447			*470*

Source: UK: Central Statistical Office. All others: IMF International Financial Statistics.

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TABLE 6 Export Unit Values of Manufactures

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium/ Luxembourg		France		German F.R.		Italy		Netherlands		United Kingdom		*United States*	*Japan*	
	US$	Bfrs.	US$	frs.	US$	D.M.	US$	lire	US$	Gdrs.	US$	£	US$	US$	Yen
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*	*100*
1971	101	98	105	105	108	102	106	105	104	101	106	105	*102*	*104*	*101*
1972	112	99	115	105	117	103	114	106	117	104	116	111	*104*	*116*	*99*
1973	137	107	143	114	147	107	126	118	139	107	127	124	*113*	*141*	*107*
1974	171	133	162	140	172	121	154	160	178	132	153	155	*137*	*181*	*147*
1975											189	193			
1973 1st quarter	122	102	126	110	124	103	119	110	124	105	119	118	*107*	*125*	*100*
2nd quarter	134	105	141	112	141	105	121	115	135	107	129	122	*111*	*136*	*100*
3rd quarter	148	108	153	115	162	106	131	120	148	124	131	127	*114*	*147*	*108*
4th quarter	147	113	152	121	157	109	133	125	152	112	132	133	*120*	*154*	*118*
1974 1st quarter	150	123	141	125	154	114	133	137	154	121	134	141	*127*	*165*	*134*
2nd quarter	173	132	158	139	175	120	148	151	179	130	153	153	*132*	*183*	*142*
3rd quarter	177	137	170	147	175	125	163	171	186	137	159	162	*142*	*185*	*152*
4th quarter	183	138	181	151	183	126	171	181	192	138	165	170	*148*	*190*	*159*
1975 1st quarter	199	139	196	151	203	130	184	188	209	139	178	179	*156*	*192*	*157*
2nd quarter			208	153	203	131					182	188	*159*	*188*	*152*
3rd quarter					189	131					175	197	*159*		
4th quarter											174	205			
% change latest 3 months:															
On previous 3 months	+8.7	+0.7	+6.1	+1.3	−6.9	Nil	+7.6	+3.9	+8.9	+0.7	−0.6	4.0	Nil	*−2.1*	*−3.2*
On a year earlier	+32.7	+13.0	+31.7	+10.1	+8.0	+4.8	+38.4	+37.2	+35.7	+14.9	5.5	20.5	*+12.0*	*+2.3*	*+7.0*

(e) estimated.

Source: Dollar value: 'United Nations Monthly Bulletin'. National currency: Dollar values converted at OECD exchange rates as quoted in 'Series A'
: UK Department of Trade

TABLE 7 Consumer prices All goods and services

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium[1]	Luxembourg[1]	Denmark	France	German F.R.	Ireland	Italy	Netherlands	United Kingdom	*United States*	*Japan*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	104	105	106	105	105	109	105	108	109	*104*	*106*
1972	110	110	113	112	111	118	111	116	117	*108*	*111*
1973	118	117	123	120	119	132	122	125	127	*114*	*125*
1974	133	128	142	136	127	154	146	137	147	*127*	*153*
1974 1st quarter	125	123	134	129	125	144	134	132	139	*122*	*144*
2nd quarter	130	127	140	135	127	151	141	136	147	*125*	*151*
3rd quarter	136	129	144	139	128	157	150	138	151	*129*	*156*
4th quarter	140	133	149	143	130	165	160	143	158	*133*	*163*
1975 1st quarter	144	136	152	147	132	178	165	146	167	*135*	*165*
2nd quarter	148	140	156	151	135	189	169	150	183	*137*	*171*
3rd quarter	151	143	158	154	136	187	173	153	191	*140*	*173*
1974 August	136	129	143	139	128	157	150	138	149	*129*	*156*
September	137	130	145	140	128		155	140	151	*130*	*158*
October	139	131	147	142	129		156	142	154	*132*	*162*
November	140	133	150	143	130	165	160	143	156	*133*	*163*
December	141	134	150	144	130		162	144	159	*134*	*164*
1975 January	143	135	151	146	131		164	145	164	*134*	*164*
February	144	137	152	147	132	178	166	145	167	*135*	*165*
March	145	138	153	148	133		166	147	170	*136*	*168*
April	147	139	154	150	134		168	149	177	*136*	*171*
May	148	140	156	151	134	189	169	150	184	*137*	*173*
June	149	141	157	152	135		171	150	187	*138*	*172*
July	150	142	158	153	135		171	151	190	*140*	*173*
August	151	143	158	154	135	187	173	153	191	*140*	*172*
September	152	144	159	155	136		174	155	192	*141*	*176*
October	154	146	155	156	136		176	156	195	*142*	*179*
November	156	147	158	157	137		178	156	197	*143*	*177*
December	157	148	158	158	137		179	157	200	*143*	*177*
1976 January							181		201	*144*	
% change latest 3 months:											
On previous 3 months	2.9	3.0	−0.8	2.2	0.9	−1.1	3.1	2.3	3.6	*1.6*	*2.3*
On a year earlier	11.1	11.1	5.3	9.9	5.5	19.1	10.8	9.5	24.3	*7.1*	*9.2*

[1] Excluding rent.

(e) estimated.

Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'.

Time Rates of Wages and Hours of Work

A volume of tables giving particulars of the minimum, or standard, time rates of wages for the more important industries and occupations, and of the normal weekly hours for which these rates are payable. The details given relate to the position as at April 1, 1974, but any later changes known to have come into operation are shown.

£2.60 (*by post* £2.82).

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TABLE 8 Value of retail sales Current prices, seasonally adjusted

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Denmark	France[2]	German F.R.[3]	Ireland[4]	Italy[6 7]	Nether-lands	Great Britain[5]	*United States*	*Japan*
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	108	108	104	111	111	111	108	109	*109*	*110*
1972	120	119	110	121	126	125	122	123	*119*	*118*
1973	138	134	117	130	148	152	136	139	*134*	*145*
1974	159	147	133	137	168	189	150	161	*143*	*165*
1974 1st quarter	153	144	127	134	158	160	144	150	*138*	*157*
2nd quarter	159	148	131	135	165	166	149	154	*142*	*160*
3rd quarter	166	148	136	139	169	181	155	165	*148*	*170*
4th quarter	171	152	139	138	175	236	153	174	*142*	*173*
1975 1st quarter	176	161	141	146	183	181	164	182	*148*	*186*
2nd quarter	177	164	145	147	192	194	167	190	*153*	*192*
3rd quarter	184	166	146	150	200	192	170	193	*159*	*192*
1974 June	157	146	130	129	163	173	144	157	*142*	*165*
July	162	149	135	137	156	184	151	160	*148*	*167*
August	157	148	133	139	172	162	155	165	*150*	*167*
September	164	147	140	143	171	196	154	168	*148*	*177*
October	172	151	146	143	175	225	155	171	*146*	*170*
November	162	153	136	139	177	196	153	175	*142*	*174*
December	175	151	136	133	173	288	152	174	*144*	*174*
1975 January	175	160	139	150	185	168	161	181	*147*	*182*
February	175	163	142	145	182	169	167	182	*150*	*186*
March	178	160	144	143	183	208	163	182	*147*	*191*
April	178	163	146	147	188	188	169	202	*150*	*191*
May	174	162	146	149	198	203	165	182	*154*	*192*
June	180	167	143	146	189	193	166	188	*155*	*193*
July	179	169	143	149	193	198	168	191	*159*	*193*
August	184	166	145	146	198	166	167	192	*160*	*194*
September	189	163	150	156	208	211	175	196	*158*	*190*
October	193	180	156	156	212			196	*160*	*197*
November		180	154		214			199	*161*	*194*
December									*167*	
% change latest 3 months:										
On previous 3 months	6.2	4.2	6.7	3.2	9.3	−1.5	2.0	3.5	*2.3*	*0.2*
On a year earlier	14.8	16.0	9.0	7.8	21.2	6.1	10.9	15.0	*13.0*	*11.5*

[1] Department and chainstores.
[2] Including chainstores.
[3] Including indirect taxes.
[4] Not seasonally adjusted.
[5] Average weekly sales.
[6] Excluding motor vehicles.
Source: 'OECD Main Economic Indicators'

TABLE 9 Earnings/wages per head in manufacturing

Indices 1970 = 100

	Belgium/ Luxem-bourg	Den-mark[1, 2]	France	German F.R.[4] †	Ireland[2]	Italy[7]	Nether-lands[3]	Great Britain	*United States*[4]	*Japan*[5] †
1970	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	*100*	*100*
1971	111	115	110	111	116	112	112	111	*106*	*114*
1972	126	129	121	121	133	124	126	126	*113*	*132*
1973	147	153	138	136	159	154	142	143	*121*	*163*
1974	178	187	162	152	191	189	168	166	*131*	*206*
1973 1st quarter	140	137	129	131	145	137	137	134	*118*	*148*
2nd quarter	144	151	133	134	157	151	140	139	*120*	*155*
3rd quarter	149	160	138	137	164	161	146	144	*122*	*163*
4th quarter	154	168	144	141	168	168	148	150	*124*	*174*
1974 1st quarter	162	173	147	144	172	176	158	147	*126*	*179*
2nd quarter	173	185	155	150	188	184	166	159	*129*	*201*
3rd quarter	184	190	164	156	196	194	174	172	*133*	*215*
4th quarter	192	202	169	159	207	202	175	185	*137*	*215*
1975 1st quarter	201	211	173	158	222	225	185	194	*139*	*229*
2nd quarter	207	223	177	161	241	238	189	202	*141*	*216*
3rd quarter	213	226	187	164		245	198	215	*144*	*242*
4th quarter			190 (e)						*147* (e)	
% change latest 3 months:										
On previous 3 months	2.9	1.4	1.9	1.9	8.6	2.9	4.8	6.4	*2.1*	*12.0*
On a year earlier	15.8	19.0	12.5	5.1	28.2	26.3	13.8	25.0	*7.3*	*12.7*

† Seasonally adjusted.
[1] Including mining.
[2] Earnings.
[3] Hourly rates industry: males.
[4] Gross hourly earnings per productive worker.
[5] Monthly earnings in manufacturing: regular workers.
[6] Wages and salaries per employed person in industry, excluding construction, public gas and electricity undertakings.
[7] Hourly-rates times average daily hours worked.
Source: All countries 'OECD Main Economic Indicators', except German Federal Republic ('Monatsberichte der Deutschen Bundesbank', Reine 4), Italy ('I.L.O. Yearbook' and 'M.E.I.') and Great Britain ('Department of Employment Gazette' and M.E.I.).

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Trade Information

USSR: draft tenth Five-Year Plan 1976–80

A guidance note evaluating the draft outline of the new Soviet Five-Year Development Plan (1976–80) is available. The note shows the extent of industrial expansion envisaged and summarises potential commercial opportunities. Promising areas include the engineering, chemical, petrochemical and power industries, textile, machine tools and electronic industries, exploitation of natural resources, and agriculture.

A copy of the guidance note may be obtained from the Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel 01-248 5757 ext. 368/369).

'Opportunity Germany' seminar

A one-day seminar on British-German trade and investment opportunities in West Germany is being held at the Excelsior Hotel, Manchester, on 24 March, sponsored jointly by the German Chamber of Industry and Commerce in the UK, London, and Lufthansa Business Service.

The seminar is to be chaired by G. W. Mallinckrodt, director of J. Henry Schroder Wagg & Co. Ltd., London, and vice-president of the German Chamber.

Further information: German Chamber of Industry and Commerce in the UK, 11 Grosvenor Crescent, London SW1X 7EE (01-235 0691).

ODM loans yield £19 million for British industry

British industry received over £19 million in January from orders following loans and grants made to developing countries by the Ministry of Overseas Development.

The following were among contracts accepted for financing in January, including earlier contracts now accepted for reimbursement from aid funds:

Data transmission equipment (£24,974) for Costa Rica from Bestel Dean Ltd., Manchester; springs and buffers for Sri Lanka (£43,000) from George Turton Platts, Sheffield; fuel injection equipment for Bangladesh (£89,620) from Bryce Berger Ltd., Gloucester; Radio link equipment for Peru (£212,217) from GEC Ltd., Coventry.

£10 million opportunities for UK exports to Brazil

There are substantial opportunities in Brazil for exporters of capital goods under three lines of credit totalling £10 million backed by the Exports Credits Guarantee Department.

The lines are a £5 million loan made available by Schroder Wagg and Co. Ltd. to Banco de Desenvolvimento do Estado de Sao Paulo SA, minimum contract value £10,000, expires 30 September 1976; a £2.5 million loan made available by Lloyds Bank Ltd. to Banco Novo Rio de Investimentos, minimum contract value £10,000, expires 30 September 1976; and a £2.5 million loan made available by Barclays Bank to Banco de Credito National, minimum contract value £10,000, expires 31 May 1976.

Exporters requiring further details of any of these lines of credit should contact Mr. K. J. Huggett of ECGD (tel. 01-606 6699, ext. 7369) or Mr. E. R. Jones for the Schroder Wagg line (tel. 01-588 4000) or Mr. J. C. Burnell for Lloyds Bank (tel. 01-626 1500, ext. 2087) or Mrs. V. M. Calthorpe for Barclays Bank (tel. 01-283 8989, ext. 3276).

Hints to business men booklets

A revised edition of the booklet on Morocco has been published in the 'Hints to Business Men' series. British business men who intend visiting this country on export business can obtain copies of the booklet from Export Services and Promotions Division, Department of Trade, Room DO5, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU, tel. 01-248 5757, ext. 7146, or any Regional Office of the Departments of Trade and Industry.

Advertisements are accepted for all booklets in the series which covers over 100 countries. Inquiries about advertising should be addressed to Cheiron Press Ltd., 8/10 Parkway, London NW1 7AD, tel. 01-267 1285.

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OTAR: help for exporters

Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Services and Promotion Division, Department of Trade, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel. 01-248 5757) can give you directly, or through your Regional Office, up-to-date information on the tariffs and customs regulations of overseas countries, import licensing regulations and restrictions including import quotas; certificate of origin; consular invoices and fees; labelling and marking requirements; foodstuffs, drugs and pharmaceuticals and the imports of samples. It also provides information, in collaboration with Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, on health regulations for livestock, meat, animal products and plants and seeds. In short, OTAR can help on almost all legislation which affects the entry of British goods into overseas countries.

Inquiries which concern the countries of more than one sub-section (excluding inquiries involving only EEC countries) should be made to OTAR's co-ordination sub-section on 01-248 5757 extension 452 or 454.

For information in respect of specific countries,

ring

01-248 5757 ext.

▼ Sub-section A
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Sub-section E
Australasia and South East Asia

401 New Zealand, Singapore, Thailand, W. Samoa, Chatham Island, Cook Island, Niue Island, Tokelau Isles
468 Australia, British Solomon Islands, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, Christmas Islands (Indian Ocean), Nauru, Papua New Guinea, New Hebrides, Papua, Philippines
469 Brunei, Fiji, Hong Kong, Indonesia, Malaysia, Tonga, Gilbert and Ellice Islands (incl. Ocean Island, Phoenix Island, Line Island), Norfolk Island, Pitcairn Island

Sub-section G
Middle and Far East

420 Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Burma, India, Japan, N. Korea, S. Korea, Nepal, Pakistan, Taiwan, Yemen Arab Republic, Yemen PDR
475 Iraq, Iran, Jordan, Khmer, Kuwait, Laos, Lebanon, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, N. Vietnam, S. Vietnam, Lower Gulf States (Bahrain, Qatar, Oman, United Arab Emirates), Syria

Sub-section F
North America; Bahamas; West Indies, etc.

7312 Antigua, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize (British Honduras), Bermuda, British Virgin Islands, Cayman Islands, Dominica, Grenada, Guyana, Jamaica, Montserrat, St. Kitts/Nevis/Anguilla, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Trinidad, Tobago, Turks and Caicos Islands
455 Canada
456 USA (incl. Alaska, Caroline Island, Guam, Hawaii, Mariana Islands, Marshall Islands), Panama Canal Zone, Puerto Rico, Samoa (US), Virgin Islands (US), Wake Island

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462 Spain, Spanish Sahara, Ceuta and Melilla, Andorra
471 Ascension Island, British Indian Ocean Territory, Cyprus, Gibraltar, Sri Lanka, S. Africa (with Lesotho, Swaziland, S. W. Africa and Botswana), Somali, St. Helena, Tristan da Cunha
472 Burundi, Cameroon, Canary Islands, Central African Republic, Chad, Congo (Brazzaville), The People's Republic of Benin, Ethiopia and Eritrea, Gabon, Guinea, Ivory Coast, Kenya, Tanzania. Uganda, Malagasy Republic, Mali, Mauritania, Niger, Senegal, Togo, Upper Volta, Zaire, Equatorial Guinea
473 The Gambia, Ghana, Liberia, Malawi, Nigeria, Rhodesia, Sierra Leone, Zambia

Tariff and Trade Notices

Iceland

Confectionery raw materials: duty exemptions. The Icelandic authorities have announced that the following raw materials will be exempt from import duty when imported for use in the manufacture of sugar and chocolate confectionery:

BN no.	Description of goods
11.08.09	Flavourless starch
15.12.03	Saturated palm oil
17.02.03	Syrup in 25kg packs or larger
19.01.00	Malt extract
19.05.00	Puffed rice and cornpuffs
21.07.09	Prepared vegetable protein ('Hyfoama')
35.03.09	Gelatin
38.19.19	'Invertase concentrate' and 'Cremor super'

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 458/461.

Finland

Import credit overtime charge. To restrict short-term indebtedness of the country, the Bank of Finland is to tighten on 1 March the control on short-term import credits by a special overtime charge on delivery credits exceeding six months. It is hoped to publish details next week; meanwhile further information is available from OTAR ext. 458/461.

France

Braking regulations for goods vehicles. The French *Official Journal* of 27 January 1976 has published an arrêté of 21 November 1975 regarding braking regulations for unladen goods vehicles of a weight exceeding 3.5 tonnes and passenger vehicles having more than eight seats, excluding the driver's seat, with certain exceptions, including public service vehicles.

These regulations will affect vehicles put on the road as from 1 October 1976.

Copies of the French text can be sent on request or seen at Export House. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 423/7174/408/482.

Spain

Home compensation tax. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 16 February 1976 announced a temporary concessional rate of 1.5 per cent home compensation tax levy, valid from 24 January to 23 April 1976 on the following items*:

Tariff No.	Description
26.01.A.2	Mineral ores with a content of no less than 62 per cent of iron, dry.
27.01.A	Coal suitable for coking either as imported or mixed with other grades of coal, imported by iron and steel manufacturers for use in their coking plants
48.01.A.1	Newsprint intended exclusively for the publication of daily newspapers.
48.01.A.2	Newsprint imported under the duty-free quota.
73.15.E.4.a	Stainless steel hot-rolled coils of 3 mm or more in thickness.

* In the case of tariff headings 48.01.A.1 and 2 validity date is from 23 January to 22 April 1976.

Inquiries: OTAR, ext. 462/471/472/473.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exports (CRE) Divisions, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

Cokable coal: duty-free quota. The Spanish *State Gazette* 17 February 1976, announced a duty-free import quota for 1976 of 4,461,000 metric tons of cokable coal, tariff heading 27.01.A. Any imports during 1976 covered by import licences issued during 1975 will be discounted from the 1976 quota. Inquiries: OTAR, ext. 462/471/472/473.

Opening of global quotas. The Spanish global quotas for 1976 were published in *Trade and Industry*, 30 January, pages 318/19.

The Spanish authorities have now invited applications from Spanish importers, merchants and industrials against the following quotas for the first half of this year. Applications must be presented within thirty days from 14 February:

Quota no.	Tariff no.	Goods	Value pesetas
11	25.02 25.03	Pyrites and sulphur	136,950,000
48	ex 70.13.B.1 70.21.A 70.21.B 70.21.C	Other glass manufactures	27,500,000
50	71.08	Rolled gold products	5,500,000
51	71.05 71.06 ex 71.09 71.10 71.11	Precious metals, precious metal-plated products, either raw or semi-finished	192,500,000
52	71.12 71.13 71.14 71.15 71.16	Imitation jewellery and other manufactures	22,000,000
53	ex 73.23	Iron and steel containers	21,450,000
54	73.36	Stoves, heaters, cookers, gas rings etc., as well as their parts of cast iron or steel.	11,825,000
55	ex 73.40.C.1 73.40.C.2 73.40.C.3	Other manufactures of cast iron or steel	24,200,000
56	74.19.E 74.19.F	Other copper manufactures	10,725,000
57	ex 76.15 76.16.B	Other aluminium manufactures	11,825,000
59	82.03.A 82.03.B 82.03.C ex 82.03.E 82.04	Hand tools for industry	56,265,000
60	ex 82.02 ex 82.06.A ex 82.06.B	Saws and blades	31,625,000
61	82.09 82.10 82.11.A 82.11.C 82.11.D 82.11.E 82.14	Cutlery, knives, etc. made of iron or steel	21,450,000

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Dietetic food preparations – regulations. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 13 February 1976, published a Resolution establishing the need to register dietetic and other specific food preparations with the Direccion General de Sanidad (Spanish Health Ministry).

The labels of such products should include:

1 Coded information about the date of manufacture as well as the shelf life.

2 Precautions to be taken for the preservation of the product.

3 Ingredients and additives.

4 Amount of calories, etc.

5 Importance of the basic product with dietectic properties.

6 Mode of use and recommendations.

Copies of the Spanish text are obtainable. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Butyl alcohol: duty-free import quota. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 19 January 1976, announced a duty-free import quota of 3,000 tonnes of secondary butyl alcohol, tariff heading 29.04.A.3. The validity period is for one year from 4 January 1976. The quota will be distributed by the Ministry of Commerce. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Raw cocoa beans: import duty suspension. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 19 January 1976, announced the suspension of import duty, valid from 21 December 1975 to 20 March 1976 on raw cocoa beans, tariff sub-heading 18.01.A. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Petrochemical products. The Spanish *State Gazette*, 19 January 1976, announced reductions or suspensions in import duties valid from 1 January to 1 March 1976 on the following petrochemical products:

Tariff no.	Description	Import duty
29.01.A.1	Butadiene	Nil
29.08.D	Ethylene glycol	4.5%
29.15.D.1	Dimethyl terephthalate	Nil
29.22.A.4	Hexamethylenediamine monomer adipate	Nil
29.27.B	Acrylonitrile (monomer)	Nil
29.35.G	Caprolactams	Nil
39.01.G	Ethylene-glycol polyterephthalate	4.5%
39.02.G.1	Acrylonitrile copolymers	Nil
39.02.H.1	Polyvinyl-butyral and polyvinyl-formal	Nil

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 462/471/472/473.

Turkey

Import of ships. Tankers up to nine years of age and passenger and cargo ships of up to 13 years of age may be freely imported into Turkey, providing the vessels are over 1,600 gt or 3,000 dwt below deck enclosed cargo space. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 439.

Yemen Arab Republic

Documentation for imports. According to a press report in the Yemeni newspaper *Al Thowra* from 16 February 1976 six copies instead of four of the signed commercial invoice are required. As previously, the original has to be certified by the Yemen Arab Republic Embassy or its representatives. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 420/475.

Zambia

Customs tariff changes. Further to the notice on the Zambian budget in *Trade and Industry*, 13 February 1976, the Customs and Excise (Amendment) Act 1976, which came into operation on 31 January 1976, amends the Zambian Customs and Excise Act.

By making changes to the first schedule to the Zambian Customs Tariff on the following tariff heading numbers:

04.04.90	16.04.99	17.01.21	17.01.29	21.06.10	21.06.20
21.06.90	21.07.30	21.07.51	21.07.90	22.05.30	22.08.90
22.09.11	22.09.12	22.09.13	22.09.14	22.09.15	22.09.16
22.09.17	22.09.19	22.09.30	24.01.91	24.01.99	27.07.10
27.10.23	27.10.24	27.10.27	27.10.28	27.10.41	27.10.42
34.02.20	34.02.90	38.11.90	39.07.94		
40.11.11	40.11.12	40.11.19	40.11.31	40.11.32	40.11.39
44.15.90	48.05.19	49.09.10	50.09.00	50.10.00	51.01.00
51.03.00	51.04.91	51.04.99	52.02.00	53.11.90	53.12.00
54.05.00					
55.05.00	55.06.00	55.07.91	55.07.99	56.05.00	56.06.00
56.07.91	56.07.99	57.09.90	57.10.90	57.11.00	57.12.99
58.04.11	58.04.19	58.04.20	58.04.30	58.04.91	58.04.99
58.05.00	58.06.00	58.07.90	58.08.20	58.08.30	58.08.40
58.08.90	58.09.11	58.09.12	58.09.13	58.09.19	58.09.20
58.10.00					
59.01.90	59.02.20	59.02.31	59.02.39	59.02.90	59.03.10
59.03.20	59.05.90	59.06.00	59.07.10	59.07.90	59.08.91
59.08.99	59.09.90	59.10.00	59.11.91	59.11.99	59.12.10
59.12.90	59.13.10	59.13.90	59.14.10	59.14.20	59.14.90
60.01.11	60.01.12	60.01.19	60.04.11	60.04.19	60.04.20
60.04.31	60.04.39	60.04.41	60.04.49	60.04.90	60.05.11
60.05.19	60.05.21	60.05.29	60.05.30	60.05.41	60.05.49
60.05.91	60.05.92	60.05.93	60.05.99	60.06.10	60.06.20
60.06.90					
61.01.10	61.01.20	61.01.31	61.01.39	61.01.41	61.01.44
61.01.45	61.01.49	61.01.50	61.01.60	61.01.71	61.01.79
61.01.81	61.01.89	61.01.91	61.01.99	61.02.10	61.02.21
61.02.23	61.02.24	61.02.26	61.02.27	61.02.29	61.02.31
61.02.39	61.02.41	61.02.44	61.02.45	61.02.49	61.02.50
61.02.60	61.02.71	61.02.79	61.02.81	61.02.89	61.02.90
61.03.11	61.03.19	61.03.21	61.03.29	61.03.31	61.03.39
61.03.90	61.04.11	61.04.19	61.04.21	61.04.29	61.04.30
61.04.90	61.05.00	61.06.11	61.06.19	61.06.90	61.07.00
61.08.00	61.09.10	61.09.90	61.10.10	61.10.90	61.11.00
62.01.10	62.01.21	62.01.22	62.01.29	62.02.20	62.02.30
62.02.90	62.04.10	62.04.20	62.04.30	62.04.90	63.01.10
63.01.20	64.01.10	64.01.29	64.01.90	64.02.20	64.02.39
64.02.90	64.03.00	64.04.00	64.05.10	64.05.90	
70.10.10	74.08.00	75.04.10	75.04.90	76.07.10	76.07.90
76.15.11	76.15.12	76.15.19	76.15.30	78.05.10	78.05.20
79.04.10	79.04.91	79.04.92	80.05.10	80.05.90	84.23.00
84.51.10	84.51.90	84.52.10	84.52.90	84.53.00	84.62.90
84.63.90	84.65.90				
85.01.93	85.06.21	85.06.91	85.14.32	85.17.20	87.02.90
87.02.91	87.02.92	87.02.93	87.02.94	87.02.95	87.02.96
87.02.97	87.02.98	87.02.99	87.03.90	87.14.22	87.14.41
87.14.42	88.01.00	88.02.20	90.28.10		

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By making changes to the second schedule to the Zambian Excise Tariff on tariff heading numbers 3, 4, 5, 6, 8, 10 and 11.

By making changes to the fourth schedule to the Zambian Surtax tariff on tariff heading number 1.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 473/471/472/462.

Suspension of duties. The Customs and Excise (Suspension) (Amendment) Regulations 1976, which came into operation on 31 January 1976 amends the schedule to the Customs and Excise (Suspension) Regulations by deleting the following items:

ex 16.04.99	48.14.90	50.09.00	50.10.00	53.11.90
54.05.00	58.04.20	58.04.30	58.08.20	58.08.40
58.09.11	58.09.13	59.02.31	ex 73.38.11	ex 73.38.12
ex 73.38.19	ex 76.15.41	ex 76.15.42	ex 76.15.49	ex 85.15.69
87.14.41	87.14.42			

The Customs and Excise (Suspension) (Excise Duties) (Amendment) Regulations 1976, which came into operation on 31 January 1976, amends the schedule to the Customs and Excise (Suspension) (Excise Duties) Regulations by the deletion of the following items:

Item	Goods	Effective rate of duty
ex 10	Sugar, when sold or purchased by approved persons in such quantities as may be determined by the Controller	Free

and by inserting the following items:

Item	Goods	Effective rate of duty
8(b)	Gas oil (diesel oil), when taken out of bond for use by persons engaged in an approved scheme for the transportation of goods or persons	KO.22 per dekalitre
9	Refined sugar, when taken out of bond for use by persons approved by the Minister under such conditions as the Controller may determine	Free

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 473/471/472/462.

Tanzania

Customs tariff changes. In accordance with the Customs Tariff Amendment Bill published in the *Tanzania Gazette* supplement of 26 December 1975, full import duty will be imposed on all goods, regardless of origin, entering Tanzania.

The present three-column tariff will be replaced by one rate of 'import duty', thereby eliminating the tariff preferences shown to members of the European Economic Community.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 472/471/3/462.

South Africa

Tariff application. Customs Tariff Application List 4/76, published in the South African *Government Gazette*, 20 February 1976 contains an application to the Board of Trade and Industries for increase in duty on turret type milling machines classifiable under tariff subheading 84.45.27.

British trade organisations thought to be interested in the application are being informed. Any British firm affected which wishes to make representations to the South African Board of Trade and Industries and belongs to a trade organisation should, therefore, first contact its own trade association.

If any firm proposes to make independent representations to the South African authorities and requires further information concerning the application, it should address inquiries to CRE tel. 01-215 5274.

Indonesia

Sheet glass: import duty changes. The Indonesian Minister of Finance has announced that, with effect from 14 August 1975 a 50 per cent surcharge has been imposed on the import duty of sheet glass under the following tariff item: 70.04, 70.05, 70.06, 70.07, making the duty 45 per cent. Inquiries OTAR ext. 468/469/401.

Billet and concrete iron: import duty change. The Indonesian Minister of Finance has announced that, with effect from 12 December 1975 the import duty on Tariff item 73.07.00 has been reduced to 5 per cent and on tariff item 73.10.40 has been increased to 30 per cent and sales tax to 10 per cent. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 469/468/401.

Australia

Textile restraint arrangements. The Australian Government has announced that certain import restrictions applying selectively to some items of apparel when imported from China, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Taiwan are being lifted. These selective controls are to be replaced in the case of knitted tops by global tariff quotas which do not discriminate between various sources of supply. 'Knitted tops' include knitted garments such as jumpers, cardigans, T-shirts and blouses.

Selective import restrictions followed negotiations by the previous Government for voluntary restraints on exports of these goods from the sources concerned. In reviewing the controls in question the Government had come to the conclusion that selective import controls had not been fully effective in correcting market disruption in the goods concerned. A contributory factor in the Government's decision had been the rapid emergence of still further supplies of these products and the continued high level of imports of these goods. Additionally, the controls had given rise to some difficulties in trade relations with some of the countries concerned. The Government had decided, therefore, that it would be preferable to apply a global restraint system on knitted tops in the form of tariff quotas.

Back-dated to 1 February, the scheme will run initially until 31 August 1976. Quotas allocated to importers for admission at normal rates of duty will amount to about 12 million units for this period, representing an annual import rate of 20 million units, with an additional duty applicable to imports outside these quotas of $A12 per kg.

Under the terms of the voluntary restraint arrangements with Hong Kong and Macau, goods from these sources will be allowed entry at normal rates of duty.

Action of this nature on knitted tops was foreshadowed in Government statements, at the time when the selective import controls were introduced, announcing that a close watch would be kept on imports of these goods so that if imports from unrestrained sources threatened to reach levels which would contribute towards market disruption, an urgent review would be undertaken into courses of action which might then be appropriate.

Consequently a reference has been sent to the Textiles Authority asking for their advice on arrangements which should apply to imports of knitted tops and the following items of apparel still subject to voluntary restraint arrangements.

INTERLINGUA TRANSLATIONS
Translations for Export & Industry
Ashurst Wood, East Grinstead, Sussex.
Tel: Forest Row 2101 (8 lines) Telex: 95101 (8 lines)
ترجمة
翻訳

Knitted tops	
knitted coats, jackets, cardigans, jumpers, sweaters and the like	ex 60.05
knitted outerwear shirts for men, boys and infants	ex 60.05
knitted blouses or shirts for women and girls	ex 60.05
Dresses, knitted or woven	ex 60.05 ex 61.02
Trousers, including jeans, knitted or woven for men, youths, boys and infants	ex 60.05 ex 61.01
Coats, raincoats and jackets, woven for women, girls and infants	ex 61.02
Blouses and shirts, woven, for women, girls and infants	ex 61.02 ex 61.04
Nightwear, knitted	ex 60.04
Nightwear, woven, for women, girls and infants	ex 61.04
Certain items of knitted underwear	ex 60.04
Playsuits, tracksuits, rompersuits and the like, knitted, with chest measurement less than 86cm (ie for children)	ex 60.05

Ministers have advised importers of the goods covered by the reference to exercise proper care in placing orders overseas in the immediate future. Should the need for continued or extended restraint action emerge from the inquiry, goods ordered overseas but not cleared for home consumption at the date of the announcement, would be subject to the terms of that action, and no special consideration will be given to outstanding financial commitments. Arrangements will however be made to deal with goods currently in transit to Australia.

The new tariff structure will be introduced as quickly as possible and all further details will be published as soon as they are available.

Inquiries about the new restraint arrangements should be addressed to OTAR ext. 468 and those about the Textiles Authority reference to CRE tel. 01-215 5319.

Extension of whitegoods tariff quotas. The Australian Government has accepted the recommendations of the Industries Assistance Commission in its interim report on domestic refrigerators, washing machines and clothes dryers.

Until the Government announces its decision on the Commission's forthcoming report on the long term assistance to be provided to the industry, tariff quotas and tariff levels will remain unchanged, except for washing machines.

The Commission found that the demand for washing machines had been higher than expected by the Temporary Assistance Authority last February, when recommending the introduction of tariff quotas. It appears that the demand in 1976 will be at least equal to that in 1975 and the Commission considered that the washing machine tariff quota should be relaxed. The Government has accepted the Commission's recommendation that the quota on washing machines should be increased from an annual rate of 20,000 to 40,000 units.

The Government has also accepted the Commission's suggestion that the 5 per cent reduction in duties on refrigerators over 454 litres and on washing machines, which was scheduled to take effect on 4 February 1976, should not take place. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 468/469/401.

New Zealand

Raw hides and skins: customs tariff review. The New Zealand Customs Department has announced that Section VIII of the tariff will soon be covered under the Customs Tariff Review (see *Trade and Industry*, 27 June 1975, page 779). The closing date for receipt of submissions for tariff items in Section VIII is 31 March 1976. Section VIII of the tariff covers the following three chapters:

SECTION VIII
Raw hides and skins, leather, furskins and articles thereof; saddlery and harness; travel goods; handbags and similar containers; articles of gut (other than silk-worm gut)

41 Raw hides and skins (other than furskins) and leather

42 Articles of leather; saddlery and harness; travel goods, handbags and similar containers; articles of animal gut (other than silk-worm gut)

43 Furskins and artificial fur; manufactures thereof

The Customs Department has indicated that British exporters who wish to make submissions should do so by letter (five copies) through the Commercial Department, British High Commission, PO Box 369, Wellington, New Zealand. Ref. CRE 45466. Inquiries: CRE tel. 01-215 5321.

Philippines

Import duty changes. The President of the Republic of the Philippines has announced with effect from 29 October 1975 changes in import duty on goods under the following tariff headings:

Tariff no.	Description of articles	Rate of duty *ad val.*
25.20	Gypsum; anhydrite; calcined gypsum, and plasters with a basis of calcium sulphate, whether or not coloured, but not including plasters specially prepared for use in dentistry:	
	A Articles not included in subheading B hereof	10%
	B Gypsum	20%
28.54	Hydrogen peroxide (including solid hydrogen peroxide)	30%
32.13	Writing ink, printing ink and other inks	50%
48.01	Paper and paperboard (including cellulose wadding), machine-made in rolls or sheets:	
	A Paper:	
	1 Carbonising tissue paper and stencil tissue paper stock, filter paper, coloured match wrapping paper, cupstock converting paper, tabulating index paper, newsprint and cigarette paper exceeding 15cm in width, electrical grade insulating paper	30%
	2 Bookpaper and bondpaper	50%
	3 Other	100%
73.12	Hoop and strip of iron or steel, hot-rolled or cold-rolled:	
	B Cold-rolled hoop and strip, or iron or steel, coated or uncoated	30%
73.13	Sheets and plates, or iron or steel, hot-rolled or cold-rolled:	
	A Uncoated:	
	2 Cold-rolled sheets	30%
84.10	Pumps (including motor pumps and turbo pumps) for liquids, whether or not fitted with measuring devices; liquid elevators of bucket, chain screw, band and similar kinds:	
	B Centrifugal water pumps, single stage, single suction, horizontal shaft type suitable for belt drive or direct coupling (except pumps with shafts common with prime mover), with casings and impellers of cast iron or bronze; piston or plunger type of hand pumps	30%
84.11	Air pumps, vacuum pumps and air or gas compressors (including motor and tubo pumps and compressors and free-piston generators for gas turbines); fans, blowers and the like:	
	A Portable or stationary air compressors and vacuum pumps with air delivery of over 33 cfm; mine ventilation fans and blowers with minimum capacity of 5,000 cfm; sand pumps; open type compressors rated over 400,000 BTU/hr, hermetically sealed compressors with ratings over 400,000 BTU/hr, air pumps	30%
85.20	Electric filament lamps and electric discharge lamps (including infra-red and ultra-violet lamps); arc-lamps; electrically ignited photographic flash bulbs:	
	A Infra-red and ultra-violet lamp bulbs including reflector and mercury lamp bulbs; lamp bulbs; lamp bulbs for motor vehicles	10%
87.01	Tractors (other than those falling within heading no. 87.07), whether or not fitted with power take-offs, winches or pulleys:	
	A Articles not included in subheading B hereof	10%
	B Power tillers or walking tractors or hand tractors	30%
87.04	Chassis fitted with engines, for the motor vehicles falling within heading no. 87.01, 87.02 or 87.03:	
	A Completely knocked-down (CKD) components when imported from one or more countries for assembly of trucks upon prior authorisation and certification of the Board of Investments	20%
	B Other	20%

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 468/469/401.

Canada

Soft floor coverings: flammability requirements. The Canadian Department of Consumer and Corporate Affairs has announced amendments to the Hazardous Products Act relating to the flammability requirements for soft floor coverings (carpets and rugs). The amendments will take effect from 1 July 1976.

a the size restriction for small carpets and rugs has been increased to 24 square feet, and with a maximum length of 6 feet

b small carpets and rugs as defined in (a) which do not meet the requirements of the Act must bear a cautionary warning label

c provision will be made in the regulations to allow the labelling of imported small carpets and rugs after entry into Canada.

Details are available from OTAR ext. 455/456/457.

United States

Food colour amaranth. The *Federal Register* dated 10 February 1976 published a regulation by the Food and Drug Administration revoking the use of FD & C Red No. 2. Existing stocks of food, drugs and cosmetics will not be recalled.

This regulation became effective on 10 February 1976. A copy of the text is available. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 456/457/7312.

Barbados

Import licences. By SI 1976 No. 24 the Barbados authorities state that import licences are now required for the importation of the following item:

Tariff no.	Description of goods
ex 21.07.9	Corn, canned

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7312/456/457.

Guyana

New customs tariff. A copy of the new Guyana tariff, introduced on 1 February 1976, is held by OTAR. Contrary to expectations, the old non-preferential rate has not been adopted in its entirety, and many rates of duty shown in the new tariff differ substantially from the old non-preferential rates. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 7312/456/457.

Venezuela

Minimum values established for plastic syringes. Ministerio de Hacienda Resolution No. 774 of 23 December 1975 establishes the following reference cif prices for plastic syringes under BTN No. 90.17.01.21:

B's = Bolivares

2½cc	B's 60.02	per 100 units
5cc	B's 86.70	per 100 units
10cc	B's 99.27	per 100 units
20cc	B's 160.22	per 100 units

These prices shall be understood as being the minimum base in order to calculate the *ad valorem* duty (10 per cent *ad valorem* cif). Whenever these prices are lower than those resulting from the regulation on the normal value of merchandise in customs, the latter shall be applied for the computation of the taxable base.

A copy of this Resolution, in Spanish, is available to British exporters. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Further information

In many cases further information on the notices published on these pages is available to British exporters from the Department of Trade. The main branches concerned are: Commercial Relations and Exports (CRE) Divisions, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET (tel: direct dialling); and Overseas Tariffs and Regulations Section (OTAR), Export Data Branch, Export Services and Promotions Division, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU (tel: 01-248 5757). In each case, the relevant information source is indicated at the end of the notice by its initials (OTAR or CRE) and, in the case of OTAR, the telephone extension. In the Tariff and Trade Notices section countries are grouped by continents as far as possible; they are listed alphabetically on the contents page.

Panama

Import quota on sacks. The Panamanian Ministry of Commerce and Industry have announced the following import restriction.

Tariff no.	Goods	Quota
656-01	New or used sacks made of jute, cotton or synthetic fibres	10% of the total imports for 1974

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 476/474.

Argentina

Sectorial Agreements. Telephonic Communique No. 3,445 of 30 December 1975 cancelled, with effect from 31 December 1975, all Sectorial Agreements referred to in EIS notice 238 of 5 November 1975.

The payment terms for imports are now 180 days from date of shipment except for Capital Goods, the payment terms for these being as set out in Bank Circular RC 524 are available on request.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Second-hand machinery. Resolution 539 permits the importation into Argentina of second-hand machinery when the following conditions are fulfilled:

1 Imports must be approved by the Secretaria de Estado de Desarrollo Industrial (Secretary of State for Industrial Development).
2 There must be no national similar.
3 The machinery must be in good condition and fit for the purpose for which it is intended.
4 The goods must be used by the importer, not being sold or otherwise transferred for a period of five years from date of shipment.

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 474/476.

Have you a good industrial news picture?

Pictures are published in *Trade and Industry* each week showing developments in British industry. If your company has introduced an interesting new product, if you have received an award, if you have developed a novel manufacturing process, if you have produced the biggest or smallest or heaviest or (you feel) the best designed product, you are welcome to send us a photograph with a short news story. Contributions should be sent promptly – while the subject is still newsworthy – to the Editor, *Trade and Industry*, Room 439, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET.

Brazil

Reference prices. The following reference prices have been imposed by Customs Policy Council Resolutions published in the *Diario Oficial*.

Tariff no.	Goods	Reference price
Resolution No. 2,638 (*Diario Oficial* of 16.12.75)		
29.40.07.00	Pancreatin (Trypsin)	US $41.00 per kg cif
29.40.10.00	Rennin	US $80.00 per kg cif
29.40.14.00	Bromelin	US $47.00 per kg cif
Resolution No. 2,641 (*Diario Oficial* of 16.12.75)		
85.21.02.99	Monochrome television tubes	US $14.50 each cif
Resolution No. 2,642 (*Diario Oficial* of 16.12.75)		
29.02.27.00	Carbon tetrachloride (Tetrachloro-methane)	US $582.00 tonnes cif
29.02.28.00	Perchlorethylene	US $608.00 tonnes cif
Resolution No. 2,643 (*Diario Oficial* of 1.1.76)		
29.38.11.01	Vitamin B12 (Cyanocobalamine)	US $5.15 gm cif
29.38.11.99	Hydroxycobalamine	US $7.90 gm cif
Resolution No. 2,646 (*Diario Oficial* of 2.1.76)		
27.07.02.00	Benzol	US $380.00
27.07.03.00	Toluol	US $280.00
27.07.06.00	Xylenol	US $280.00
27.07.09.00	Xylol	US $280.00

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 476/474.

Free Zone of Manaus – possible future restrictions. The Brazilian authorities have published a Decree-Law which, among other things, aims to reduce imports of what are regarded as unnecessary consumer goods into the Free Zone of Manaus. SUFRAMA, the Free Zone Authority, is empowered to add to the list of goods which are liable to import duty (at present only cars, guns and ammunition, alcoholic drinks, perfumes and tobacco are liable to duty). Other measures will be introduced aimed at increasing the use of Brazilian materials and components in industrial undertakings.

No further information is available at present. Inquiries: OTAR ext. 476/474.

Import restrictions – further information. A previous notice referred to import restrictions laid down by CACEX Comunicado 543. Further information has now been received, including the complete list of tariff numbers affected by the new measures. The chapters affected are as follows:

02, 03, 04, 06, 07, 08, 09, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25 30, 33, 34, 39, 40, 42, 44, 46, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62· 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 73, 74, 75, 76, 80, 82, 83, 84, 85, 87, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98.

In most cases only certain sub-headings are affected but as there are too many to enumerate here only the main chapters have been given. Exporters wishing to know if their goods are affected should contact OTAR Section for fuller details.

The issue of import licenses for 'superfluous goods' has not been suspended where the following conditions are met:

Goods are totally destined for export or re-export and have the prior approval of CACEX.

DRAWBACK operations

Donations without exchange cover for technical, scientific, cultural, philanthropic, and educational purposes

Imported from LAFTA countries

Inquiries: OTAR ext. 476/474.

Registered trade marks

The lists of tariff, customs and import regulation changes in overseas countries published in this section of *Trade and Industry* sometimes contain words which are registered trade marks in the United Kingdom. So far as is practicable, all lists of goods are checked before publication from this point of view. Items which fall into this category are preceded by the letters rtm. Readers should note that this prefix signifies that the words are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom but that in the present context are assumed to refer generally to products of the descriptions stated in brackets. While every attempt will be made to ensure that the scrutiny is complete, the lists may contain other words which are registered as trade marks in the United Kingdom or in other countries but which it has not been possible to identify.

Further exemptions from import deposits. The Central Bank of Brazil have published their Resolution No. 358 in which they grant exemption to certain goods from the import deposit scheme introduced in Resolution No. 354. The goods now exempted are as follows:

Complete machines of the following types, as well as parts and components intended for their manufacture, assembly and maintenance:

Deaf aids (Tariff No. 90.19.07.00) including batteries specially intended for them (85.03.02.00);

Cardiac pacemakers (90.19.08.00) including batteries specially intended for them (85.03.03.00);

Neuro-stimulators (90.19.99.00);

Orthopaedic equipment of any kind;

Machinery, apparatus and equipment for the printing, reading and reproduction of Braille, when imported by specialised bodies for the care and education of the blind, provided their ultimate destination can be proven and at the discretion of CACEX;

Goods which are the object of a resolution of the Customs Policy Council, intended for use as animal feedstuffs or their manufacture or preparation;

Goods included in tariff headings 39.01.04.99 and 28.40.03.32 when destined for use in the manufacture of radiographic films;

Goods imported specifically for the manufacture of goods included in chapter 31, headings 29.44, 30.01, 30.02, 30.03, 38.11, and sub-headings 10.01.02.00, 27.01.01.00, 30.05.01.00 and 30.05.02.00.

The Resolution also reworded the following exemptions laid down in Resolution 354:

Equipment, parts and accessories, not having national similars, intended for:

Research in, and production of, crude petroleum where the final destination and use are proved to Petroleo Brasileiro S.A. – Petrobras;

Paper for the printing of newspapers, magazines, books, purchased in accordance with the provisions of Decree 66.125 of 28.1.70, or whether or not having a water-mark, when provided for by resolution of the Customs Policy Council under conditions to be laid down.

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BANCO DO BRASIL S. A.

CONSOLIDATED AND CONDENSED COMPARATIVE STATEMENT OF CONDITION IN MILLIONS OF U.S. DOLLARS

Assets	**31. 12. 75**	**31. 12. 74**	**31. 12. 73**
Cash and due from banks	**1,142.0**	1,021.0	682.9
Loans	**26,166.8**	20,856.9	14,870.3
Securities	**429.7**	338.7	285.2
Bank premises and equipment	**373.4**	356.6	292.1
Other assets	**1,094.4**	663.2	499.5
TOTAL ASSETS	**29,206.3**	23,236.4	16,630.0
Liabilities			
Deposits	**17,537.7**	15,007.8	10,872.7
Demand	**9,129.6**	8,183.2	6,485.7
Time	**8,408.1**	6,824.6	4,387.0
Funds borrowed	**1,367.4**	1,147.8	781.9
Funds for refinancing	**5,882.5**	3,301.6	2,524.7
Other liabilities	**1,961.2**	2,070.2	1,296.8
Capital accounts	**1,277.2**	778.9	466.0
Reserves	**1,180.3**	930.1	687.9
TOTAL LIABILITIES	**29,206.3**	23,236.4	16,630.0

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Statistics

The economy: selected indicators

Series expressed as index numbers and seasonally adjusted except where shown otherwise

	Gross domestic product (average estimate)	Consumers' expenditure	Fixed capital expenditure			Changes in stocks				Balance of payments		
			Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Distributive and service industries	Total	of which: Manufacturing industry	of which: Wholesalers	of which: Retailers	Current balance	Visible balance	Invisible balance
	at 1970 prices		at 1970 prices			at 1970 prices				at current prices		
Base of index	1970	1970	1970	1970	1970							
£m in base year		31,472	9,380	2,130	2,090							
Series in						£ million				£ million		
1970	100	100	100	100	100	450	325	68	−30	735	−12	747
1971	102	103	102	93	104	70	−148	52	−10	1,048	282	766
1972	104	109	104	82	117	−5	−175	48	−11	128	−690	818
1973	110	114	107	88	125	960	396	102	334	−835	−2,295	1,460
1974	110	114	105	98	113	553	666	81	−68	−3,666	−5,232	1,566
1975		113 p								−1,708	−3,232	1,524
1973 1st qtr.	110	115	109	86	130	353	166	37	51	−131	−335	204
2nd qtr.	109	113	104	83	118	274	88	3	185	−77	−402	325
3rd qtr.	110	115	107	92	120	155	46	29	47	−250	−616	366
4th qtr	109	115	107	89	132	178	96	32	51	−377	−942	565
1974 1st qtr	106	113	108	97	112	−174	−31	18	−59	−853	−1,280	427
2nd qtr.	110	112	100	96	110	274	191	43	27	−971	−1,359	388
3rd qtr.	112	114	103	97	119	359	368	3	−14	−873	−1,249	376
4th qtr.	111	115	107	101	113	94	139	17	−22	−969	−1,344	375
1975 1st qtr.	110	116	105	93	102	−171	−4	−31	−57	−413	−848	435
2nd qtr.	107	114	103	87	100	−288	−112	−54	−52	−340	−681	341
3rd qtr.	107	112	107	82	102	−157	−211	−25	60	−598	−986	388
4th qtr.		112 p								−357	−717	360 **
% change last 2 qtrs. on prev. 2 qtrs.	−3.0	−2.2	−1.2	−13.3	−6.4							
on a year earlier	−3.6	−2.1	+3.5	−12.7	−11.7							

	Industrial production		Personal expenditure		Prices and costs (NOT seasonally adjusted)					Labour (UK)			Trade	
	Total all industries	Total manufacturing industries	Retail sales	Cars: new registrations	Retail prices	% increase on a year earlier	Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: basic materials and fuel used	Wholesale prices: all manufacturing industry: manufactured products: home sales*	Basic hourly wage rates of manual workers (all industries and services)	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: mid-month count	Unemployed excluding school leavers and adult students: % of total employees	Unfilled vacancies for adults: mid-month count	Exports	Imports
				monthly averages									On a balance of payments basis	
Base of index	1970	1970	1971		Jan. 1974		1970	1970	July 1972					
£m in base year			15,895											
Series in				thousands						thousands		thousands	£ million at current prices	
1971	100.5	99.7	100.0	108.5	153.4†	9.4	104.6	109.0	88.9	775.8	3.4	130.9	8,810	8,528
1972	102.6	102.4	105.8	138.6	164.3†	7.1	109.2	114.8	101.4	855.0	3.7	147.3	9,140	9,830
1973	110.3	110.9	110.7	137.1	179.4†	9.2	144.5	123.2	115.6	611.0	2.6	307.0	11,771	14,066
1974	106.3	107.8	109.9	102.8	108.5	16.0	215.3	152.0	138.7	600.3ø	2.6ø	302.7ø	15,888	21,120
1975	101.6	101.7	107.9	97.2	134.8	24.2	235.3 p	188.7 p	179.8	929.3	4.0	148.2ø	18,775	22,007
1974 1st qtr.	104.4	106.5	109.6	102	101.4	12.9	212.5	138.3	125.0	572.9	2.5	288.6	3,480	4,760
2nd qtr.	107.9	109.4	107.8	105	107.5	15.8	213.7	148.9	132.3	579.4	2.5	313.0	4,005	5,364
3rd qtr.	108.3	109.6	111.2	107	110.2	17.0	212.9	156.1	144.0	621.2	2.7	310.1	4,220	5,469
4th qtr.	104.8	105.7	111.3	97	115.1	18.2	222.1	164.9	153.5	..	..	..	4,183	5,527
1975 1st qtr.	104.8	106.1	111.3	108	122.0	20.3	220.9	176.0	163.6	733.3	3.2	..	4,527	5,375
2nd qtr.	100.2	100.4	108.9	94	133.6	24.3	225.6	186.3	176.3	849.7	3.7	159.8	4,475	5,156
3rd qtr.	100 0	100.1	105 5	103	139.4	26.6	239.3	193.4	185.4	1008.5	4.3	135.2	4,645	5,631
4th qtr.	101.2	100.7	105.8	85	144.2	25.3	255.4 p	199.1 p	193.7	1125.6	4.8	119.4 p	5,128	5,845
1975 Jan.	105.5	107.7	112.8	117	119.9	19.9	222.1	173.0	159.8	709.0 e	3.0 e	..	1,507	1,911
Feb.	105.2	106.9	111.6	109	121.9	19.9	218.8	175.9	162.0	736.7	3.2	196.3	1,479	1,811
Mar.	103.6	103.8	109.5	97	124.3	21.2	221.9	179.2	169.0	754.1	3.2	189.7	1,541	1,653
Apr.	101.5	101.7	120.0	95	129.1	21 7	222.9	182.5	170.1	794.2	3.4	176.5	1,378	1,728
May	99.4	99.4	103.7	95	134.5	25.0	226.2	187.3	176.4	853.5	3.7	158.6	1,609	1,692
June	99.7	100.0	104.1	91	137.1	26 1	227.7	189.0	182.6	901.4	3.9	144.4	1,488	1,736
July	100.6	100.9	105.4	91	138.5	26.3	233.2	191.7	184.8	976.5	4.2	131.6	1,574	1,950
Aug.	98.8	98.9	104.8	98	139.3	26.9	241.4	193.5	185.5	1008.8	4.3	136.7	1,489	1,890
Sept.	100 5	100.5	106.1	120	140.5	26.6	243.2	194.9	186.0	1040.1	4.5	137.4	1,582	1,791
Oct.	101.5	101.2	104.8	85	142.5	25.9	251.7 p	197.0	187.4	1088.5	4.7	126.2	1,732	1,955
Nov.	101.5	101.1	105.2	81	144.2	25.2	256.2 p	198.9	195.6	1125.3	4.8	117.3	1,641	1,926
Dec.	100.6	99.8	107.0	87	146.0	24.9	258.4 p	201.5 p	198.2	1163.2	5.0	114.8	1,755	1,964
1976 Jan.			109 p	115	147.9	23.4	260.4 p	204.9 p	201.6 p	1205.5 p	5.2	109.2	1,785 p	1,964 p
% change latest 3 months on prev. 3 months	+1.2	+0.6	+1.7	−6.9	+3.7		+5.3	+3.4	+6.5	+11.4		−14.7	+8	+4
on a year earlier	−3.4	−4.7	−4.3	−8.4	+24.5		+15.9	+19.8	+26.2	..		..	+20	+4

p Provisional * After April 1973, affected by changes due to VAT † Base of index Jan. 1962 = 100 .. not available
ø Average of 11 months e Figure is estimate ** Figure is projection

Manufacturing industry's capital expenditure by regions

Symbols used in all statistical tables

.. not available	r revised
— nil or less than half the final digit shown	* five week period
	ø fifty-three week period
p provisional	

This article introduces a new series of quarterly figures of manufacturing industry's estimated capital expenditure by regions. Table 1 gives a run of figures from the first quarter of 1974 to the second quarter of 1975. Not all Standard Regions are shown separately, since the main object of the analysis is to monitor trends in the Assisted Areas (see Notes).

The coverage is the same as that for the quarterly series of manufacturing industry's capital expenditure published regularly, ie it includes expenditure on new building work and acquisitions less disposals of vehicles and plant and machinery. No conversion to constant prices or seasonal adjustment is feasible at this stage and the main body of the table is therefore given in percentages of the UK total (at current prices, not seasonally adjusted) given in the last column.

The estimates are based on returns from a sample of firms, mainly the larger ones. The validity of the assumptions made in grossing up the returns cannot be checked until the results by region from the 1974 Annual Census of Production become available. Because of this, and because of the differences in definition to which attention is drawn in the Notes, it would be unwise to attempt any detailed comparison between these data and regional figures available from the 1972 and earlier censuses. However, the quarterly calculations are internally consistent so that they should, in time, show trends in the regions. Because they form too short a run to judge whether there is any difference in the seasonal pattern between regions, the only direct comparisons that can be made at present are between the first two quarters of 1974 and the corresponding quarters of 1975.

The figures show that in 1974, out of the total UK capital expenditure by manufacturers of about £3,200 million, a little over 80 per cent was invested in plants located in England, 9 per cent in Scotland, 6 per cent in Wales and 2 per cent in Northern Ireland. Almost 47 per cent was invested in the part of England roughly south of a line joining the Humber and the Mersey of which only a small proportion is Assisted Area, and in which 56 per cent of all employees in manufacturing industry were employed in 1974.

Little can be deduced about trends in 1974 alone, but taking into account the first two quarters of 1975, there is some evidence of rather more of the UK total being invested in Scotland and Wales, and less in England and Northern Ireland (although figures for the latter are so small that less reliance can be placed on that comparison). Within the English regions, the share of the non-Assisted Areas declined from about 48 per cent in the first half of 1974 to about 42 per cent in the first half of 1975, some of this going to the North and Yorkshire and Humberside regions as well as to Scotland and Wales. In contrast to other Assisted Areas, the North West region recorded some reduction in its share of the UK total over this period.

Table 2 presents an analysis by industry group and region for 1974. Investment in the food, drink and tobacco group of industries was concentrated in England outside the Assisted Areas and in Scotland. The group containing the chemicals, coal and petroleum products and metal manufacturing industries invested proportionately more than other industry groups in the North region and in Wales, where these industries together accounted for 55 per cent and 60 per cent respectively of total manufacturing investment.

The investment of the engineering and vehicles group (including ship-building and the metal goods industries) was predominately outside the Assisted Areas, while that of the remaining industry group (comprising textiles, leather and clothing, paper, printing and pub-

TABLE 1 Quarterly expenditure by all manufacturing industry

At current prices not seasonally adjusted

Period	Percentage of UK total								£ million
	England								
	North	North West	Yorkshire and Humberside	Rest	Total	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland	Total UK*
1974 Year	10.4	14.2	11.2	46.5	82.3	9.4	6.1	2.2	3,242
1974 1st quarter	9.0	14.0	10.7	48.0	81.7	9.0	6.6	2.7	722
2nd quarter	10.6	15.1	10.4	47.0	83.1	9.4	5.2	2.3	723
3rd quarter	9.8	14.1	11.5	48.1	83.5	8.6	6.0	1.9	821
4th quarter	11.7	13.9	11.8	43.5	80.9	10.5	6.6	2.0	975
1975 1st quarter	12.7	13.8	12.0	41.4	80.0	9.7	8.6	1.8	877
2nd quarter	12.6	13.0	12.6	42.0	80.2	11.7	6.4	1.7	844

* Corresponds with figures for manufacturing industry in Table 4 of regular article on capital expenditure in *Trade and Industry*.

TABLE 2 Analysis for year 1974 by industry and asset

At current prices

			England								
			North	North West	Yorkshire and Humberside	Rest	Total	Scotland	Wales	Northern Ireland	Total UK
a *by industry group*											
SIC Order											
III	Food, drink and tobacco	£m	11	59	53	241	364	72	10	8	454
		% UK	*2*	*13*	*12*	*53*	*80*	*16*	*2*	*2*	*100*
IV-VI	Chemicals, coal and petroleum products and metals	£m	185	111	132	225	653	85	120	3	861
		% UK	*22*	*13*	*15*	*26*	*76*	*10*	*14*	—	*100*
VII-XII	Engineering and vehicles	£m	64	137	54	610	865	64	29	17	975
		% UK	*6*	*14*	*5*	*63*	*88*	*7*	*3*	*2*	*100*
XIII-XIX	All other	£m	76	154	123	430	783	85	40	44	952
		% UK	*8*	*16*	*13*	*45*	*82*	*9*	*4*	*5*	*100*
III-XIX	Total manufacturing	£m	336	461	362	1,506	2,665	306	199	72	3,242
		% UK	*10*	*14*	*11*	*47*	*82*	*10*	*6*	*2*	*100*
b *by asset*											
New building		£m	63	79	68	307	517	74	36	22	649
		% UK	*10*	*12*	*11*	*47*	*80*	*11*	*6*	*3*	*100*
Plant, machinery and vehicles		£m	274	381	294	1,198	2,147	232	164	50	2,593
		%UK	*11*	*15*	*11*	*46*	*83*	*9*	*6*	*2*	*100*

lishing and other manufacturing industries) was distributed very similarly to total manufacturing investment except for a somewhat greater share in Northern Ireland.

The proportions of UK investment in the two types of asset were very similar in all regions with rather more emphasis on building work in Scotland, and on plant, machinery and vehicles in the North West region.

The breakdown by industry in Table 2 is limited because the figures are not necessarily reliable at a greater level of detail. Similarly, no detailed breakdown by industry or asset can be provided on a quarterly basis.

Notes

The Assisted Areas cannot be defined exactly in terms of Standard Regions but broadly they consist of Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland, Yorkshire and Humberside and the North and North West regions of England. Among the forms of assistance available to these areas (the Northern Ireland schemes being administered separately) are Regional Development Grants towards the cost of investment projects. These grants are paid at varying rates and cover different types of assets from one Area to another; for example only new building work qualifies for Regional Development Grant in most of the North West region and Yorkshire and Humberside while in most of the other Assisted Areas, grants are available also towards expenditure on plant and machinery. The region designated as 'England Rest', comprising the West Midlands, East Midlands, East Anglia, South West and South East Standard Regions, is mainly outside the Assisted Areas, although a small proportion of it does qualify for assistance.

The regional figures are being collected by the Department of Industry from the panel of manufacturing companies who contribute to its quarterly inquiry on total capital expenditure. The supplementary regional inquiry started in the middle of 1974, and, although the majority of respondents were able to give retrospective information for the first two quarters of 1974, there is a somewhat greater degree of estimation in these two quarters' figures than in the later quarters. Regional figures for recent quarters are based on returns from firms accounting for about 60 per cent of manufacturing industry's capital expenditure by value.

The basic figures are at current prices and no attempt has been made to convert them to 1970 prices as this could only be done by applying price index numbers appropriate to the UK as a whole. Nor is it possible, with such a short run, to make any adjustments for seasonal variations. The main body of the table has therefore been given in percentages rather than in absolute figures as the trend in the shares of different regions is of more significance than actual figures in current prices. Total UK expenditure at current prices, not seasonally adjusted, is given in the last column so that the absolute figures for any region can be calculated if required.

The figures are on the same basis as those published regularly for capital expenditure by manufacturing industry (eg Press Notice on 30 December 1975, repeated in *Trade and Industry*, 9 January 1976), although figures for the UK as a whole are usually quoted at 1970 prices, seasonally adjusted.

Regional figures in the Annual Censuses of Production for 1970/72 include net acquisitions of land and existing buildings, excluded from the quarterly series. Comparisons may also be affected by changes in the English regional boundaries. All the quarterly figures are for the Economic Planning Regions as defined from 1 April 1974.

Firms may obtain information on the assistance available to industry from the nearest Regional Development Grants Office or Regional Office of the Department of Industry. A complete list of the addresses and telephone numbers of these offices appeared in *Trade and Industry* on 21 November 1975.

Regional selective assistance

The table below shows, on a regional basis, the applications received and offers made under Section 7 of the Industry Act for November 1975.

Region	Applications received No.	Offers made No.	Value (£'000)
Scotland	7	8	188
Wales	12	11	2,139
Northern	16	4	200
North West	21	22	1,529
Yorks/Humberside	11	11	83
South West	6	3	14
East Midlands	4	2	71
West Midlands	–	–	–
Total	77	61	4,224

Great Britain – retail trading

A statistical report on retail trading in Great Britain* summarising the data provided in the 10 area analyses of information from the 1971 Census of Distribution published last year was issued by the Business Statistics Office on 23 February.

The statistics, covering Scotland, Wales and each of the standard regions of England, are based on the situation as it was in 1971 and do not take account of changes under the Local Government Act 1972 and the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973. They are concerned mainly with retail trading but include some information on hairdressing and footwear repairing.

Included in the report are summary tables showing figures of retail shops and service trade establishments by kind of business for each country and standard region; total figures for each county and for towns and rural districts within each county; and some information on Electricity and Gas Board showrooms.

This volume also contains an index to the towns and other areas for which figures are given in the 10 area parts of the census report.

* Business Monitor SD 21 available price £2.00 from Her Majesty's Stationery Office bookshops, through book sellers or by mail order direct from HSMO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH.

Registrations of British, community and foreign films

The following are details of films registered by the Department of Trade under the Films Acts 1960 to 1970, as amended by the European Communities Act 1972, during the week ended Friday, 20 February 1976.
BR/E indicates that the film is a British quota film, EC that the film is a quota film. The date which forms part of the registration number of each is the date on which quota life of the film expires.

Title of film	Registered no.	Playing time minutes	Date of registration	Registered in the name of	Maker's name
			BRITISH		
To The Devil . . . A Daughter	BR/E 38458C/21/2/81	93	20 February	EMI Film Distributors Ltd.	Hammer Film Productions Ltd., London and Terra Filmkunst GmbH, Berlin, West Germany
Movietone News 2437	BR/E 38345/21/2/81	8	20 February	British Movietonews Ltd.	British Movietonews Ltd.
			FOREIGN		
Sheba Baby	F 38451	90	19 February	Focus Film Distributors Ltd.	AIP, California
What's Up Tiger Lily	F 38452	80	19 February	Focus Film Distributors Ltd.	AIP, California
Winterhawk	F 38453	87	19 February	Focus Film Distributors Ltd.	AIP, California
Death Race 2000	F 38454	80	19 February	Focus Film Distriburors Ltd.	New World Pictures, California
Sweet Kill	F 38455	76	20 February	Focus Film Distributors Ltd.	New World Pictures, Californa
The Killer Elite	F 38456	123	20 February	United Artists Corporation Ltd.	Optimus Productions Ltd., New York
One Flew Over The Cuckoo's Nest	F 38457	134	20 February	United Artists Corporation Ltd.	NV Zwaluw, Netherlands

Acquisitions and mergers of industrial and commercial companies in the fourth quarter of 1975

Total expenditure on acquisitions of industrial and commercial companies fell slightly in the fourth quarter of 1975 after the sharp rise in the preceding quarter. The number of companies acquired also fell slightly. The financial press reported 72 companies acquired during the quarter for a total expenditure of £81 million, compared with 88 companies acquired for £112 million in the quarter before. Table 1 shows that acquisition activity in 1975 as a whole was substantially lower than in 1974, in terms of both expenditure and the number of companies involved, and that the activity in 1974 was itself much lower than in any year since the data were first collected on the present basis at the beginning of 1969.

There was one major acquisition during the fourth quarter, that of Anglo-Thai Corporation by Inchcape for £32.4 million. Table 2 shows that the nine largest acquisitions (12 per cent of the total number) accounted for 75 per cent of the total expenditure during the quarter, while the remaining 63 companies (88 per cent of the total number) which were each acquired for £2 million or less, accounted for 25 per cent of the total expenditure. The average cost of acquisitions in the fourth quarter was £1.1 million, much the same as the average for 1975, £0.9 million, and the average for 1974, £1.0 million.

TABLE 1 Acquisitions and mergers within the United Kingdom

	Total all acquisitions and mergers			Acquisitions of independent companies and mergers									Sales of subsidiaries between company groups		
				Total			Acquisitions of independent companies			Mergers†					
	Number acquiring	Number acquired	Value £ million	Number acquiring	Number acquired	Value £ million	Number acquiring	Number acquired	Value £ million	Number acquiring	Number acquired	Value £ million	Number acquiring	Number acquired	Value £ million
1969	686	846	1,068.9	595	744	969.2	593	742	961.6	2	2	7.6	91	102	99.7
1970	629	793	1,122.5	490	614	996.6	484	608	954.1	6	6	42.5	139	179	125.9
1971	687	884	911.1	498	620	745.6	498	620	745.6	–	–	–	189	264	165.5
1972	928	1,210	2,531.6	716	938	2,346.2	710	931	2,336.9	6	7	9.3	212	272	185.4
1973	929	1,205	1,304.3	724	951	1,057.5	722	949	1,055.2	2	2	2.3	205	254	246.8
1974	427	504	508.4	307	367	459.1	306	366	451.6	1	1	7.5	120	137	49.3
1975	276	315	290.8	180	200	221.0	177	197	215.1	3	3	5.9	96	115	69.8
1972 1st quarter	211	278	465.7	158	209	426.1	156	207	426.0	2	2	0.1	53	69	39.6
2nd quarter	247	326	421.5	195	263	376.7	192	260	375.2	3	3	1.5	52	63	44.8
3rd quarter	217	285	726.1	167	222	673.9	166	220	666.2	1	2	7.7	50	63	52.2
4th quarter	253	321	918.3	196	244	869.5	196	244	869.5	–	–	–	57	77	48.8
1973 1st quarter	258	362	323.7	195	278	280.4	195	278	280.4	–	–	–	63	84	43.3
2nd quarter	207	256	205.8	164	203	179.4	164	203	179.4	–	–	–	43	53	26.2
3rd quarter	215	276	431.7	175	226	299.7	173	224	297.4	2	2	2.3	40	50	132.0
4th quarter	249	311	343.3	190	244	298.0	190	244	298.0	–	–	–	59	67	45.3
1974 1st quarter	152	191	252.6	116	149	231.3	116	149	231.3	–	–	–	36	42	21.3
2nd quarter	105	128	129.8	68	83	118.1	68	83	118.1	–	–	–	37	45	11.7
3rd quarter	90	101	75.5	65	74	66.5	64	73	59.0	1	1	7.5	25	27	9.0
4th quarter	80	84	50.5	58	61	43.2	58	61	43.2	–	–	–	22	23	7.3
1975 1st quarter	50	56	47.1	35	37	38.4	34	36	36.9	1	1	1.5	15	19	8.7
2nd quarter	82	99	50.8	52	62	38.0	51	61	37.4	1	1	0.6	30	37	12.8
3rd quarter	81	88	111.9	50	55	77.5	50	55	77.5	–	–	–	31	33	34.4
4th quarter	63	72	81.0	43	46	67.1	42	45	63.3	1	1	3.8	20	26	13.9

† A merger (which takes place when two companies combine to form a new company) is reckoned as the acquisition of the smaller company by the larger and is valued at the market value of the smaller company's share of the newly formed company.

TABLE 2 Size distribution of acquisitions within the United Kingdom

Expenditure (£ million)	1974		1975		1975 1st qtr.		1975 2nd qtr.		1975 3rd qtr.		1975 4th qtr.	
	Number acquired	Value £m	Number acquired	Value £m	Number acquired	Value £m	Number acquired	Value £m	Number acquired	Value £m	Number acquired	Value £m
Over 25	3	151.1	1	32.4	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	32.4
Over 5 and up to 25	16	142.5	12	100.6	2	11.8	2	16.4	7	65.9	1	6.5
Over 2 and up to 5	26	80.1	24	71.3	7	20.0	3	8.4	7	20.8	7	22.1
2 or less	459	134.7	278	86.5	47	15.3	94	26.0	74	25.2	63	20.0
Total	504	508.4	315	290.8	56	47.1	99	50.8	88	111.9	72	81.0

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TABLE 3 Categories of expenditure on acquisitions and mergers within the United Kingdom

	Expenditure (£ million)				Percentage of expenditure		
	Total	Cash	Issues of ordinary shares	Issues of fixed interest securities	Cash	Issues of ordinary shares	Issues of fixed interest securities
1969	1,069	296	552	221	27.7	51.6	20.7
1970	1,122	251	596	275	22.4	53.1	24.5
1971	911	285	437	189	31.3	48.0	20.7
1972	2,532	493	1,459	580	19.5	57.6	22.9
1973	1,304	691	466	147	53.0	35.7	11.3
1974	508	347	114	47	68.3	22.4	9.3
1975	291	173	93	25	59.4	32.0	8.6
1972 1st quarter	465.7	97.4	289.4	78.9	20.9	62.2	16.9
2nd quarter	421.5	119.3	257.4	44.8	28.3	61.1	10.6
3rd quarter	726.1	108.9	381.1	236.1	15.0	52.5	32.5
4th quarter	918.3	167.6	531.0	219.7	18.3	57.8	23.9
1973 1st quarter	323.7	120.7	157.4	45.6	37.3	48.6	14.1
2nd quarter	205.6	90.1	92.0	23.5	43.8	44.8	11.4
3rd quarter	431.7	310.5	100.5	20.7	72.0	23.2	4.8
4th quarter	343.3	169.4	116.4	57.4	49.3	33.9	16.8
1974 1st quarter	252.6	189.8	51.0	11.8	75.1	20.2	4.7
2nd quarter	129.8	68.9	27.3	33.6	53.1	21.0	25.9
3rd quarter	75.5	42.3	32.6	0.6	56.1	43.1	0.8
4th quarter	50.5	46.2	3.3	1.0	91.5	6.5	2.0
1975 1st quarter	47.1	38.7	7.1	1.3	82.2	15.0	2.8
2nd quarter	50.8	33.5	17.3	—	65.9	34.1	—
3rd quarter	111.9	64.4	24.0	23.5	57.6	21.4	21.0
4th quarter	81.0	36.2	44.6	0.2	44.7	55.1	0.2

Table 3 shows that expenditure in cash fell slightly in the fourth quarter to 45 per cent of total expenditure and that expenditure in ordinary shares rose sharply to 55 per cent of the total, while expenditure in the form of fixed interest securities was virtually nil. The proportion of total expenditure accounted for by each of these three methods of payment tends to vary considerably from quarter to quarter. However, the proportion in cash has tended to be high since the beginning of 1973, compared with earlier years, and the proportions in ordinary shares and in fixed interest securities have tended to be low. The proportion in fixed interest securities has generally been very low since the beginning of 1974.

Tables 1, 2 and 3 are taken from a more detailed analysis published in Business Monitor M7, Acquisitions and Mergers of Companies (obtainable from HMSO each quarter for an annual subscription of 74p). The Business Monitor also contains tables analysing acquisitions and mergers by industry.

Notes

This analysis relates only to industrial and commercial companies in the United Kingdom and is based on reports in the financial press supplemented by special inquiries to companies to determine the form, value and timing of particular acquisitions. The Bank of England compiles an analysis of acquisitions and mergers relating to financial companies (banks, insurance companies, etc.) which is published in the *Bank of England Quarterly Bulletin*.

No method of valuing acquisitions is altogether free from objection. The values shown here relate in general to expenditure during the current period, excluding any previous investments in the company acquired. Where possible, the values are market values, ie the cash paid or the market price at date of issue of shares or loan stock issued. Where market values are not available (as in the case of unlisted securities) or the cash payment is not disclosed, acquisitions are in general valued at the net book value of the acquired company. When comparing the series over time one must allow for the considerable short-term fluctuations in share prices, in addition to allowing for the general inflation of values.

Where the acquired company was a subsidiary of another United Kingdom company, the transaction is classified as a sale between company groups. Acquisitions between subsidiaries of the same company group, in the course of internal reorganisation, have been ignored.

As far as possible, acquisitions are recorded at the date when the transaction is finalised (eg when a bid is declared unconditional). This date usually comes before the date on which the shares in the acquired company are surrendered, although it may be considerably later than the date when the bid is first announced in the press.

New companies incorporated in Northern Ireland during January

In January 1976, 44 private companies were registered in Northern Ireland. The total nominal capital of the 44 companies which were incorporated in January was £1,096,050.

In the same month of 1975, 42 private companies were registered with a nominal capital of £696,900.

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Engineering sales and orders (SIC Orders VII, VIII, and IX) up to November 1975

The provisional trend estimates and seasonally adjusted volume index numbers of engineering sales and orders to November 1975 are contained in the accompanying table. Whilst the trend in the volume of export sales continued to decrease, the declining trend of home sales appears to have levelled out in recent months. Latest figures suggest that the volume of total net new orders has declined further with the trend in new export orders weaker than for the home market. The inflow of new business is still below current sales and order books have continued to fall throughout the engineering sector.

The trend in the volume of total sales decreased by 1 per cent between August and November with home sales falling slightly and

Index numbers for the combined engineering industries (SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX) (a)

Volume index numbers: Orders-on-hand. December 1970 unadjusted = 100 Net new orders and sales, 1970 average monthly sales = 100

	Total			Home			Export		
	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	Net new orders	Sales	Orders-on-hand (end of period)	New net orders	Sales
Trend estimates									
1974 January	134	124	110	134	117	112	136	140	104
February	136	120	109	134	113	111	139	138	106
March	137	117	110	134	110	110	143	135	108
April	137	115	110	134	108	111	145	131	110
May	138	113	112	133	108	112	147	126	112
June	137	112	113	132	109	112	147	120	114
July	137	110	113	132	108	112	147	114	116
August	136	107	113	131	106	112	146	108	117
September	134	104	113	129	103	112	144	104	117
October	133	100	113	128	99	111	142	101	118
November	130	97	113	125	96	111	140	99	118
December	128	94	113	123	92	111	138	97	118
1975 January	125	92	113	120	91	110	135	95	118
February	122	91	112	117	90	110	132	94	117
March	119	91	111	114	90	109	129	94	117
April	117	92	110	112	90	107	127	97	116
May	115	92	109	110	89	106	125	100	116
June	112	92	108	107	88	104	123	102	115
July	110	91	107	105	87	104	122	102	115
August	108	90	106	102	86	103	120	100	114
September	106	89	106	99	85	103	118	97	113
October	103	87	106	97	84	103	116	94	113
November	102	86	106	95	84	103	115	90	112
Percentage change (b) Aug.-November 1975	−5.5	−4.5	−1.0	−6.5	−2.0	−0.5	−4.5	−9.5	−1.5
Seasonally adjusted									
1969	101	100	97	102	99	99	100	102	91
1970	100	99	100	100	99	100	100	100	100
1971	93	97	101	95	98	101	89	93	102
1972	99	103	101	103	108	105	90	91	92
1973	133	134	113	134	136	117	131	131	102
1974	128	109	111	123	105	111	139	118	113
1974 1st quarter	136	117	108	133	109	110	142	135	105
2nd quarter	138	117	112	133	112	111	148	128	113
3rd quarter	134	106	114	130	106	112	144	105	117
4th quarter	128	97	112	123	94	110	139	104	117
1975 1st quarter	119	89	112	114	89	110	128	89	118
2nd quarter	113	94	108	108	92	106	123	101	115
3rd quarter	106	90	107	100	86	104	118	101	114
1974 January	135	119	105	134	111	107	136	138	101
February	136	117	109	134	111	109	139	132	107
March	136	113	111	133	104	113	142	135	108
April	137	119	111	133	112	111	145	136	112
May	138	115	110	133	108	110	148	130	110
June	138	116	114	133	115	113	148	118	116
July	136	103	114	131	99	114	148	114	115
August	135	106	114	130	105	112	146	106	120
September	134	108	113	130	113	112	144	96	116
October	133	102	113	128	99	110	142	110	119
November	131	94	112	126	95	110	140	94	115
December	128	94	112	123	88	109	139	108	118
1975 January	124	86	114	119	85	112	135	88	119
February	122	97	113	117	98	111	132	95	118
March	119	85	110	114	85	108	128	85	117
April	116	94	112	112	94	111	126	95	115
May	115	100	107	110	94	104	126	114	115
June	113	88	106	108	86	103	123	94	115
July	109	84	109	104	78	105	121	99	120
August	108	93	102	102	84	99	121	112	110
September	106	95	109	100	96	107	118	91	113
October	103	85	108	97	81	105	116	95	113
November	100	83	103	94	82	99	113	85	113
Jun-Aug 1975 (av.)	108	88	108	102	83	102	121	102	115
Sept-Nov 1975 (av.)	100	88	107	94	86	104	113	90	113
Percentage change (b)	−7.0	−1.0	+0.5	−7.5	+4.5	+1.5	−6.5	−11.0	−2.0

(a) All figures are provisional.

(b) For orders on hand, the percentage changes compare the level at the end of the latest period shown with the corresponding level for the earlier period. The percentage changes have been based on the unrounded values and are given to the nearest half percentage point.

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export sales by 1½ per cent. In these months the trend in sales to the home market has levelled-off following a period of more than a year of continuous decline. In contrast the trend in sales to the export market is a further erosion since they reached their peak levels one year ago.

There was a decline in the trend of total net new orders of 4½ per cent between August and November. New contracts for the home market declined by 2 per cent over this period and was a continuation of the decline that has been in evidence over the past two years. New orders from the export market fell by 9½ per cent between August and November after a period in the spring when the trend in new orders showed a slight recovery.

The receipt of new orders is still at a considerably lower level than the level of sales with a resultant fall in the level of order books. Between August and November there was a fall of 5½ per cent in total orders-on-hand, with home order books shortening by 6½ per cent and export order books by 4½ per cent.

The revised figures published in this table are based on the Monthly Engineering Inquiry relating to November 1975. The response rate of 82 per cent to the inquiry for November is judged sufficient to justify publication of provisional indices for this month. Taking into account late returns now received for August, September and October, response rates for these months were 89, 91 and 86 per cent, respectively.

When using the volume index numbers and trends shown in the accompanying table, it should be borne in mind that, when price increases are large, the various problems associated with revaluation of the values of engineering sales and orders to constant prices become more acute. Because of these difficulties the relative accuracy of the volume estimates is likely to have been reduced in recent months and studies are currently in hand to ascertain the possible directions and magnitudes of any biases, which may lead to revisions in due course.

Business Monitor PM 33-36, Engineering (volume indices of sales and orders), is obtainable from HMSO, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, post free for a subscription of £2.10 per annum. Volume indices are given for sales, orders-on-hand and net new orders for total, home and export markets, for each of the three SIC Orders VII, VIII and IX (mechanical, instrument and electrical engineering, respectively).

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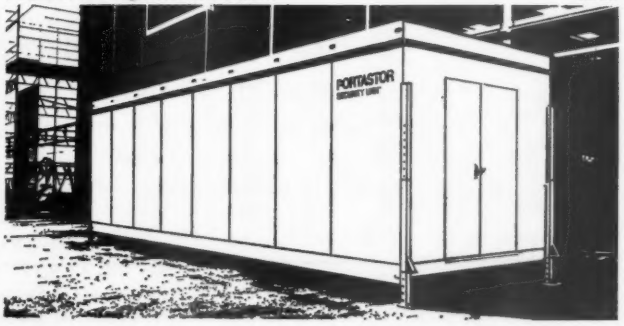

Motor vehicle output in January

Production of cars in the four weeks ending 24 January of 94,834, a weekly average of 23,709, was 24 per cent below the level in January 1975. Production for the home market fell by 28 per cent and production for export by 18 per cent. Production of commercial vehicles was 27,586 (weekly average 6,897) a fall of 20 per cent from the January 1975 level. Production for the home market fell by 39 per cent but production for export rose by 7 per cent.

(The summaries which follow are based on the seasonally adjusted figures in Table 2.)

Cars

January car production of 95,000 units was 10 per cent below the monthly average for 1975. Production for the three months November to January was 3 per cent below the preceding three months and 7 per cent below the 1975 monthly average. Production for both home and export markets in the most recent three months fell by 7 per cent compared with the monthly average for 1975.

Commercial vehicles

Commercial vehicle production in January of 31,400 units was 1 per cent below the monthly average for 1975. In the three months November to January the level of production was the same as in the preceding three months but 5 per cent below the monthly average for 1975. Compared with the monthly average for 1975 production for export in the three months November to January was 9 per cent higher and that for the home market was 20 per cent lower.

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TABLE 2 Production – seasonally adjusted

The seasonally adjusted series has been adjusted to exclude the effect of regularly recurring influences (eg holidays but the figures still reflect the effect of factors that do not recur regularly (eg strikes).

Care should be taken not to interpret changes between one month and another as necessarily indicating the underlying trend. The averages in the latest three months and the previous three months gave a more reliable guide to recent changes.

MONTHLY AVERAGE — Thousands

	Passenger cars			Commercial vehicles		
	For home market	For export	Total	For home market	For export	Total
1968	84	67	151	21.6	12.5	34.1
1969	74	69	143	22.7	16.1	38.8
1970	77	60	137	22.3	15.8	38.1
1971	86	59	145	22.3	15.7	38.0
1972	109	51	160	22.7	11.3	34.0
1973	95	50	145	21.5	13.2	34.7
1974	78	50	128	19.3	14.2	33.5
1975	61	45	106	16.1	15.5	31.6
1975 1st quarter	80	46	126	20.4	16.5	36.9
2nd quarter	47	44	91	15.6	14.6	30.2
3rd quarter	60	47	107	15.4	14.9	30.3
4th quarter	58	41	99	13.4	16.1	29.5
1975 January	76	48	124	20.5	17.6	38.1
February	97	45	142	21.6	17.0	38.6
March	68	44	112	19.1	15.0	34.1
April	65	49	114	17.8	15.2	33.0
May	34	34	68	15.6	14.4	30.0
June	43	48	91	13.5	14.2	27.7
July	57	47	104	15.0	15.0	30.0
August	50	46	96	14.4	15.4	29.7
September	72	48	120	16.7	14.6	31.1
October	57	36	93	14.0	15.7	29.6
November	58	43	101	13.1	16.1	29.2
December	59	44	103	13.0	16.6	29.6
1976 January	55	40	95	12.5	18.9	31.4
Average of : Aug.-Oct. 1975	60	43	103	15.0	15.0	30.0
Nov. 1975-Jan. 1976	57	42	99	13.0	17.0	30.0
Percentage change	−4	−2	−3	−14	+14	N/C

TABLE 1 Recorded production

Production figures of road motor vehicles cover complete vehicles, chassis with engines for delivery as such and un-assembled vehicles for export. Road tractors are included but battery operated road vehicles are excluded.

Production for export may differ from actual exports as recorded in the Overseas Trade Statistics because of differences in timing and coverage.

		Passenger cars (including taxis)				Commercial road vehicles			
	No. of weeks	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average	For home market	For export	Totals	Weekly average
1968	52	1,013,163	802,773	1,815,936	34,922	259,331	149,855	409,186	7,869
1969	53	892,758	824,315	1,717,073	32,398	272,998	192,778	465,776	8,788
1970	52	918,109	722,857	1,640,966	31,557	267,407	190,125	457,532	8,799
1971	52	1,027,462	714,478	1,741,940	33,499	268,278	187,928	456,206	8,773
1972	52	1,307,881	613,430	1,921,311	36,948	272,649	135,470	408,119	7,848
1973	52	1,142,216	605,105	1,747,321	33,602	257,574	159,049	416,623	8,012
1974	52	937,932	596,187	1,534,119	29,502	232,373	170,193	402,566	7,742
1975	52	735,532	532,164	1,267,696	24,379	194,319	186,386	380,705	7,321
1975 1st quarter	13	242,571	139,736	382,307	29,408	61,402	46,808	108,210	8,324
2nd quarter	13	145,107	142,664	287,771	22,136	49,650	48,435	98,085	7,545
3rd quarter	13	151,830	117,925	269,755	20,750	39,136	38,724	77,860	5,989
4th quarter	13	196,024	131,839	327,863	25,220	44,131	52,419	96,550	7,427
1975 January	4	79,301	46,278	125,579	31,395	19,997	14,429	34,426	8,606
February	4	84,826	43,032	127,858	31,964	19,669	15,619	35,288	8,822
March	5	78,444	50,426	128,870	25,774	21,736	16,760	38,496	7,699
April	4	57,260	48,895	106,155	26,539	16,866	14,418	31,284	7,821
May	4	35,750	36,423	72,173	18,043	15,879	16,070	31,949	7,987
June	5	52,097	57,346	109,443	21,888	16,905	17,947	34,852	6,970
July	4	39,303	32,345	71,648	17,912	10,995	12,480	23,475	5,869
August	4	40,219	38,525	78,744	19,686	10,117	10,271	20,388	5,097
September	5	72,308	47,055	119,363	23,873	18,024	15,973	33,997	6,799
October	4	60,873	36,246	97,119	24,280	14,964	16,352	31,316	7,829
November	4	65,941	46,021	111,962	27,991	13,994	16,300	30,294	7,574
December	5	69,210	49,572	118,782	23,756	15,173	19,767	34,940	6,988
1976 January	4	56,850	37,984	94,834	23,709	12,167	15,419	27,586	6,897

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Production in the cotton industry

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Production in the cotton industry

Annual totals and weekly averages

		Single yarn (†)		Doubled yarn		Woven cloth	
		Cotton yarn (‡)	Spun man-made yarns and mixture yarn, inc. waste	Cotton yarn	Other	Cotton	Man-made fibre and mixtures
		million kg.				million metres	
1968		171.2	67.5	49.9	52.0	668.2	507.3
1969		166.2	73.2	46.8	60.9	661.5	538.1
1970		158.7	77.4	43.2	57.3	627.6	484.3
1971		133.0	83.3	85.0		559.1	479.8
1972		121.4	81.7	75.4		513.0	469.8
1973		115.4	92.5	82.1		453.2	502.3
1974		101.3	87.7	74.7		409.5	505.3
1975		94.4	76.4	68.4		405.4	503.0
1974	January*	1.6	1.4	1.1		6.6	6.8
	February	1.7	1.5	1.2		7.1	7.9
	March	2.2	2.0	1.6		8.6	10.6
	April	2.0	1.9	1.6		8.0	10.5
	May*	2.3	2.1	1.7		8.6	10.7
	June	2.0	1.9	1.5		9.0	11.2
	July*	1.7	1.4	1.3		5.4	7.8
	August	2.2	2.0	1.6		8.6	10.8
	September	1.8	1.5	1.3		6.8	9.9
	October*	2.2	1.7	1.6		9.0	11.4
	November	2.2	1.7	1.6		9.5	11.1
	December	1.6	1.3	1.2		7.7	8.6
1975	January*	1.8	1.5	1.4		8.2	9.7
	February	1.9	1.6	1.5		8.8	10.7
	March	1.7	1.3	1.3		8.3	9.7
	April*	1.8	1.6	1.2		7.7	9.4
	May	2.1	1.7	1.5		8.1	10.0
	June	1.7	1.6	1.3		8.7	10.1
	July*	1.5	1.1	1.1		5.4	7.2
	August	1.9	1.5	1.3		8.0	9.4
	September	1.4	1.0	1.1		6.4	8.8
	October*	2.1	1.6	1.4		8.5	10.9
	November	2.1	1.6	1.4		8.7	10.9
	December*	1.5	1.2	1.0		5.7	7.8

(†) Spun in the cotton industry. (‡) Including yarns wholly of cotton waste and mixture yarn of cotton and cotton waste. * Average of five weeks.

Output in the wool textile industry

The volume of production in the wool textile industry (as measured by the seasonally adjusted index of production) in December 1975 was 1 per cent higher than in December 1974. Statistics issued by the Wool Industry Bureau of Statistics show that in the period January-December 1975 woven fabrics (excluding blankets) were 13 per cent lower than in the same period of 1974; deliveries of worsted yarns (excluding semi-worsted yarn) were 12 per cent lower. Production of wool and hair tops was 7 per cent more and that of man-made fibre tops was 19 per cent less.

Output in the wool textile industry

	Consumption	Production			Deliveries			
	Raw wool (clean weight)	Tops		Woollen yarn (†)	Worsted yarn (§)	Woven fabrics (excluding blankets) (‡)		Blankets (†)
		Wool and hair	Man-made fibres			Woollen	Worsted	
	million kilos	million sq. metres						
1968	177.5	96.6	36.4	147.4	98.2	135.8	110.6	27.3
1969	174.5	92.0	42.2	142.2	100.5	130.1	109.2	26.9
1970	153.1	79.7	44.6	129.4	97.6	115.5	99.8	24.6
1971	141.2	66.2	36.6	130.7	93.0	101.9	83.9	28.5
1972	152.3	75.1	45.9	130.9	101.6	99.8	83.7	28.8
1973	136.6	62.2	55.9	135.2	100.0	104.0	88.4	30.6
1974	112.6	43.9	54.8	122.5	87.2	92.1	82.6	28.1
1975		46.8	44.4	112.1	75.5	76.8	74.6	24.7
1973 1st quarter	40.7	19.9	13.3	36.8	27.8	25.8	24.5	8.6
2nd quarter	34.9	16.6	13.9	33.4	24.6	27.2	21.7	7.3
3rd quarter	29.2	13.0	13.0	29.8	21.8	24.1	19.9	6.7
4th quarter	31.8	12.9	15.6	35.2	25.7	27.2	22.2	8.1
1974 1st quarter	28.4	11.9	13.3	29.5	21.5	22.7	20.9	7.8
2nd quarter	33.6	12.8	15.5	36.7	23.5	25.8	21.2	7.2
3rd quarter	25.9	10.0	14.0	28.0	20.6	23.0	19.4	6.4
4th quarter	24.7	9.1	12.0	28.5	21.6	20.6	21.2	6.8
1975 1st quarter	27.3	11.2	12.8	29.4	20.4	17.7	20.7	7.6
2nd quarter	29.1	11.9	12.7	29.7	19.4	22.5	19.2	5.0
3rd quarter	25.5	11.4	9.2	24.6	15.7	19.8	17.1	5.7
4th quarter		12.3	9.6	28.4	19.9	16.8	17.6	6.4
1974 January	8.7	3.6	3.8	9.2	6.8	7.4	6.7	2.3
February	8.6	3.6	4.0	8.8	6.9	7.0	6.6	2.9
March	11.1	4.7	5.5	11.5	7.8	8.3	7.6	2.6
April	11.0	4.4	5.9	12.0	8.1	8.3	7.0	2.4
May	10.9	4.2	4.8	12.1	7.6	9.0	7.1	2.5
June	11.7	4.2	4.8	12.6	7.8	8.5	7.1	2.3
July	9.2	4.0	6.1	9.3	7.4	7.6	7.0	1.6
August	7.7	2.5	3.7	9.0	6.4	7.5	5.7	2.3
September	9.0	3.6	4.2	9.7	6.8	7.9	6.8	2.6
October	8.6	3.3	4.9	10.1	8.4	8.2	7.9	2.5
November	8.4	3.0	3.8	9.6	7.2	7.2	6.7	2.5
December	7.7	2.8	3.4	8.8	6.0	5.3	6.4	1.8
1975 January	8.9	3.6	4.3	9.9	7.0	6.1	7.3	2.3
February	9.1	3.8	4.2	9.5	6.4	5.6	6.8	2.9
March	9.3	3.9	4.4	10.1	7.0	6.1	6.8	2.5
April	9.6	4.1	4.5	9.8	6.9	7.0	6.5	1.8
May	9.3	3.5	3.7	9.9	6.0	7.2	6.3	1.7
June	10.2	4.3	4.5	10.0	6.4	8.2	6.4	1.6
July	9.0	4.5	3.8	8.0	5.1	6.7	6.4	1.9
August	7.0	2.7	2.2	7.5	4.7	5.9	4.5	1.7
September	9.5	4.2	3.2	9.1	5.9	7.2	6.2	2.1
October	9.7	4.0	3.6	9.9	7.2	6.6	6.4	2.1
November		4.3	3.6	9.2	6.5	5.4	5.7	1.9
December		4.0	2.4	9.3	6.2	4.8	5.5	2.4

(†) Estimated. (‡) Woven woollen fabrics include fabrics which are mainly woollen by weight of components and, similarly, woven worsted fabrics include fabrics which are mainly worsted by weight of components. (§) From January 1969 includes semi-worsted yarn: previously yarn of this type was not separately distinguished and the small quantities involved were divided between the woollen and worsted yarn headings. In December deliveries of semi-worsted yarn were 0.6 million kilos.

Exports of wool textile products

	Total	Wool tops		Yarns		Woven fabrics (‡)		Other wool textile products (†)
	£m	£m	Mn kilos	£m	Mn kilos	£m	Mn sq. m	£m
1968	114.80	23.94	25.44	20.44	14.34	66.14	69.42	4.28
1969	125.41	26.55	26.01	23.32	16.08	71.08	69.46	4.45
1970	117.25	20.38	21.08	23.37	15.85	70.00	62.51	3.50
1971	106.82	16.28	18.66	23.28	15.88	62.57	54.30	4.70
1972	118.49	19.80	20.51	27.28	18.13	66.48	56.32	4.93
1973	172.32	38.06	21.36	36.95	18.28	91.08	60.39	6.24
1974	180.44	26.15	16.15	41.56	15.56	105.84	52.80	6.89
1975	165.22	28.53	16.19	37.42	13.83	92.08	43.33	7.20
1972 1st quarter	24.72	4.00	4.71	6.06	4.22	13.66	12.14	1.00
2nd quarter	31.35	5.24	5.84	7.61	5.28	17.27	14.41	1.23
3rd quarter	26.41	3.96	4.03	5.81	3.79	15.53	13.27	1.12
4th quarter	36.01	6.59	5.93	7.81	4.84	20.03	16.51	1.59
1973 1st quarter	37.85	9.38	6.31	8.97	5.10	18.25	14.26	1.25
2nd quarter	46.56	11.04	8.10	9.53	4.88	24.48	16.57	1.51
3rd quarter	43.93	9.36	2.81	9.09	4.20	23.89	15.50	1.59
4th quarter	43.99	8.28	4.14	9.36	4.11	24.47	14.05	1.88
1974 1st quarter	45.05	8.55	..	10.47	4.20	24.44	13.50	1.58
2nd quarter	51.23	7.82	..	12.08	4.52	29.52	14.63	1.81
3rd quarter	42.27	4.86	..	9.56	3.43	26.23	12.84	1.62
4th quarter	41.90	4.92	..	9.45	3.41	25.66	11.84	1.88
1975 1st quarter	36.93	5.19	4.04	8.33	3.07	21.79	10.43	1.62
2nd quarter	42.17	6.97	3.30	9.36	3.54	24.27	10.77	1.57
3rd quarter	41.80	7.98	4.47	8.66	3.17	23.76	11.86	1.40
4th quarter	44.32	8.39	4.38	11.07	4.05	22.26	10.27	2.61

(†) Wool or other animal hair, carded or combed; felts, wholly or partly of wool; blankets: travelling rugs; woollen and worsted fents; and other made-up textile articles, not individually specified in the Export List, of sheeps' or lambs' wool of fine animal hair.

Other commodities of, or containing, wool or animal hair not included in the above table; sheeps' or lambs' wool and fine or coarse animal hair not carded or combed; noils, rags and other waste; carpets; garments; smallwares; knitted or crocheted fabrics; woven fabrics predominantly of man-made fibres containing sheeps' or lambs' wool or fine animal hair.

(‡) Excluding mechanical cloths from January 1970.

Release dates of economic statistics to be published in March

This notice is issued by the Central Statistical Office on behalf of the Government Statistical Service and other organisations as a guide to the dates of publication of major economic series in March. The dates are those which Departments, or other organisations concerned are aiming at, and would normally expect to meet. Exceptionally, there may be a delay resulting from unavoidable statistical problems of collection and compilation. Further inquiries about individual series should be addressed to the source named.

Publication date	Series	Method of release*	Source
March			
1 Mon.	CBI monthly trends inquiry	PN	CBI
2 Tues.	United Kingdom official reserves (Feb.)	PN	Treasury
	Capital issues and redemptions (during month of February)	PN	Bank of England
	Central Government borrowing requirement (Jan.)	Financial Statistics	CSO
4 Thurs.	Provisional figures of vehicle production and estimates of new car registrations (Feb. – prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
5 Fri.	Consolidated Fund and National Loans Fund (Feb.)	London Gazette	Treasury
8 Mon.	United Kingdom balance of payments (4th qtr.)	PN	CSO/ Treasury
	Hire purchase and other instalment credit business (Jan.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Retail trade (Jan. – final)	PN	Department of Industry
	Wholesale price index numbers (Feb.)	PN	Department of Industry
9 Tues.	Construction – output (4th qtr.)	PN	Department of the Environment
10 Wed.	London clearing banks' monthly statement (mid-Feb.)	PN	CLCB
	UK banks' eligible liabilities reserve assets, reserve ratios and special deposits (mid-Feb.)	PN	Bank of England
	Public sector borrowing requirement (4th qtr.)	PN	CSO
11 Thurs.	UK banking sector statistics (4th qtr.)	Bulletin	Bank of England
	Money stock (4th qtr.)	Bulletin	Bank of England
12 Fri.	Company liquidity survey (4th qtr.)	Trade and Industry	Department Industry
	Balance of payments current account and overseas trade figures incorporating the import and export unit value and volume index numbers and the terms of trade (Feb.)	PN	Department of Trade/ CSO
	Building societies' receipts and loans (Feb.)	PN	BSA
	Crude steel production (Feb.)	PN	BSC/ BISPA
15 Mon.	Retail trade (Feb. – prov.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Turnover of the catering trades (Jan.)	PN	Department of Industry
16 Tues.	Index of industrial production (Jan.)	PN	CSO
17 Wed.	Basic rates of wages and normal weekly hours (Feb.)	PN	Department of Employment
	Monthly index of average earnings (Jan.)	PN	Department of Employment
18 Thurs.	Car and commercial vehicle production (Feb. – final)	PN	Department of Industry
19 Fri.	Gross domestic product (4th qtr. – prov.)	PN	CSO
	Retail prices index (Feb.)	PN	Department of Employment
	Finished steel consumption and stock changes (4th qtr. – final)	PN	Department of Industry
21 Sun.	National Savings monthly progress report (Feb.)	PN	National Savings Committee
22 Mon.	UK banks' assets and liabilities and the money stock (mid-Feb.)	PN	Bank of England
	London dollar and sterling certificates of deposit (mid-Feb.)	PN	Bank of England
	New vehicle registrations (Feb.)	PN	Department of the Environment
23 Tues.	Unemployment (Mar. – prov.)	PN	Department of Employment
	Unfilled vacancies (Mar. – prov.)	PN	Department of Employment
	Construction – new orders (Jan.)	PN	Department of the Environment
25 Thurs.	Capital expenditure by the manufacturing, distributive and service industries (4th qtr. – rev.)	PN	Department of Industry
	Manufacturers' and distributors' stocks (4th qtr. – rev.)	PN	Department of Industry
26 Fri.	Sales and orders in the engineering industries (Dec.)	Trade and Industry	Department of Industry
29 Mon.	Quarterly analysis of bank advances (mid-Feb.)	PN	Bank of England
	National Food Survey report on consumption (4th qtr.)	PN	MAFF
30 Tues.	Housing starts and completions (Feb. – prov.)	PN	Department of the Environment
	House renovation grants approved (Feb. – prov.)	PN	Department of the Environment
	Central Government borrowing requirement (Feb.)	Financial Statistics	CSO
31 Wed.	Bricks and cement production (Feb.)	PN	Department of the Environment

* PN = Press Notice.

Business Monitor

The following titles and issues of Business Monitor are now available:

Production series

Monthly at £2.22 each a year post free:

PM 332 Metal-working machine tools for September and October 1975

Quarterly at 74p each a year post free:

PQ 109.3 Salt for fourth quarter 1975
PQ 273 Toilet preparations for third quarter 1975
PQ 339.9 Miscellaneous non-electrical machinery for third quarter 1975
PQ 341.1 Industrial (including process) plant and steelwork for third quarter 1975
PQ 441 Weatherproof outerwear for third quarter 1975
PQ 449.2 Gloves for third quarter 1975
PQ 471 Timber (sawnmilling, etc., and builder's woodwork) for third quarter 1975
PQ 496 Plastics products for third quarter 1975
PQ 602 Electricity for third quarter 1975

Service and Distributive series

Monthly at £2.22 a year post free:

SD 5 Catering trades for December 1975

Business Monitors in the Production series and Miscellaneous series, and certain Monitors (Nos. SD 1 to SD 9) in the Service and Distributive series, are normally available by annual subscription from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH. Copies of specific issues (including back issues) can be ordered by post (payable in advance) from the Library at the Business Statistics Office, Cardiff Road, Newport, Gwent NPT 1XG (tel. 0633 56111, ext. 2973; telex 497121/497122 – Answer back BSO Newport), from which a complete list of the titles of Business Monitors is available on application. Back issues of the monthly and quarterly Monitors cost 30p a copy post free. The annual Monitors are individually priced, and the cost of these will be supplied on request. Exceptionally, copies can also be purchased over the counter at either the Department of Industry Central Library, 1 Victoria Street, London SW1H 0ET, or the Department's Statistics and Market Intelligence Library, Export House, 50 Ludgate Hill, London EC4M 7HU.

The Annual Census of Production Reports (the PA series of Monitors), and the 1971 Census of Distribution Reports (which are being published as Monitors SD 10 to SD 23, though not all are yet available) can be obtained on standing order from Her Majesty's Stationery Office, PO Box 569, London SE1 9NH, or can be purchased separately from the Government Bookshops or through booksellers.

Index to statistics and organisational information published regularly in 'Trade and Industry'

A = annually M = monthly Q = quarterly 6M = every six months.

Title	Last published
Air transport: trade by air (6M)	28 Nov. 1975
Balance of payments:	
current account (M)	20 Feb. 1976
trends in invisible transactions (Q)	17 Oct. 1975
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Bankruptcies *see* Insolvencies	
Business names and limited partnerships (A)	30 Jan. 1975
Capital expenditure: manufacturing, distributive and service industries (Q)	9 Jan. 1976
By regions	This week
Catering trades turnover (M)	20 Feb. 1976
Census of production (A)	19 Dec. 1974
(amendment)	16 Jan. 1975
Chemicals industry activity (Q)	2 Jan. 1976
Companies:	
acquisitions and mergers (Q)	This week
insolvencies (Q)	6 Feb. 1976
liquidity (Q)	12 Dec. 1975
new registrations:	
Gt. Britain (M)	13 Feb. 1976
N. Ireland (M)	This week
rate of return on capital	24 Oct. 1975
Construction work overseas (A)	17 Oct. 1975
EEC economic indicators	This week
Energy trends (M)	6 Feb. 1976
Engineering industries: sales and orders (M)	This week
Film industry	
British Film Fund Agency returns (M)	13 Feb. 1976
cinema admissions and takings (M)	6 Feb. 1976
overseas payments and earnings (A)	8 Aug. 1975
registrations of films (A)	30 Jan. 1976
Food:	
consumption levels (6M)	10 Oct. 1975
household consumption (Q)	16 Jan. 1976
Footwear industry: production, orders and deliveries (M)	30 Jan. 1976
Foreign exchange: official reserves (M)	13 Feb. 1976
Foreign trade: industrial countries' production and trade (Q)	9 Jan. 1976
(*see also* Overseas trade of the UK)	
Hire-purchase business (M)	13 Feb. 1976
Industrial production:	
index numbers (M)	20 Feb. 1976
N. Ireland index (M)	21 Nov. 1975
Wales	16 Jan. 1976
Insurance companies: investments and assets (A)	22 Aug. 1975
Investment:	
book values of overseas direct investments (every 3 years)	15 Nov. 1973
industry's investment intentions (3 times a year)	9 Jan. 1976
investment and earnings overseas (A)	14 Mar. 1975
(amendment)	21 Mar. 1975
Man-made fibres:	
deliveries (Q)	13 Feb. 1976
production (M)	13 Feb. 1976
production: quarterly analysis (Q)	13 Feb. 1976
Metal working machine tools: sales and orders (M)	20 Feb. 1976
Motor industry:	
car and commercial vehicle production (M)	This week
estimated figures (M)	13 Feb. 1976
motor trade turnover (Q)	20 Feb. 1976
Office development permits (Q)	21 Nov. 1975
Overseas trade of the UK:	
direct exporters and credit terms (A)	11 Apr. 1975
analysis of trends (Q)	5 Dec. 1975
(*see also* Balance of payments)	
Pension funds: investments and assets (A)	22 Aug. 1975
Regional development grants (Q)	20 Feb. 1976
Regional selective assistance (M)	This week
Retail prices index (M)	20 Feb. 1976
Retail trades:	
sales (M)	13 Feb. 1976
provisional figures (M)	20 Feb. 1976
sales, N. Ireland (M)	20 Feb. 1976
stocks (M)	20 Feb. 1976
Royalties: overseas transactions (A)	11 Apr. 1975
Shipping: nationality of vessels in UK sea-borne trade (A)	23 Jan. 1975
Steel consumption and stocks (Q)	20 Feb. 1976
Stocks:	
manufacturers' and distributors' quarterly figures (Q)	9 Jan. 1976
manufacturers' stocks: monthly estimates (M)	30 Jan. 1976
retail (M)	20 Feb. 1976
Television: overseas payments and earnings (A)	8 Aug. 1975
Textiles:	
activity in the industry (Q)	16 Jan. 1976
carpet sales (M)	20 Feb. 1976
cotton industry production (M)	This week
hosiery production (M)	30 Jan. 1976
made-up clothing: orders and deliveries (M)	6 Feb. 1976
wholesale houses' sales (M)	20 Feb. 1976
wool exports (Q)	This week
wool output (M)	This week
Tourism:	
foreign visitor arrivals (M)	30 Jan. 1976
overseas travel and tourism (Q)	23 Jan. 1976
Wholesale prices:	
average prices of selected commodities (A)	13 June 1975
index numbers (M)	20 Feb. 1976

Departmental organisations, etc.

Subjects	Last published
British commercial representations overseas	3 Oct. 1975
Customs notices of interest to exporters	This week
ECGD local offices	This week
Guide to Departments	21 Nov. 1975
Official Receivers' offices	This week
Programme of trade promotions	16 Jan. 1976
Release dates of economic statistics	This week

MISCELLANEOUS ADVERTISEMENTS

Semi-display £2.40 per s.c.c. Run-on linage 60p per line (minimum 4 lines). Box No. 50p.
Orders for advertisements should be addressed to T. G. Scott and Son Ltd., 1 Clement's Inn, London WC2A 2ED.
Replies to Box Numbers should be addressed to Box No.—Trade and Industry, T. G. Scott and Son Ltd., 1 Clement's Inn. London WC2A 2ED.

TYRES AND WASTE RUBBER. The Sterling Tyre Co. Ltd., are exporters of tyres and tubes and waste rubber. Huge stocks for sale, all grades and sizes, surplus new and good part-worn, repairable tyres, tyre casings for remoulding, scrap tyres for industrial purposes expertly graded to customers requirements, credit facilities available for approved customers. The Sterling Tyre Co. Ltd., First Avenue, Montague Industrial Estate, Edmonton, London, N.18. Tel: 01-807 2150. (1)

ADVERTISING IN 'TRADE AND INDUSTRY'. Inquiries about advertising in *Trade and Industry* should be made to: T. G. Scott & Son Ltd., 1 Clements' Inn, London WC2A 2ED (tel. 01-242 6264 and 01-405 4743).

BALL AND ROLLER BEARINGS, Steelballs and surplus goods (tools etc.) wanted and sold—metal ammo boxes, useful for storage, transport, shelving in quantity only etc. for sale. Details: R. Pordes, 529B, Finchley Road, London, NW3. 01-435 9878/9. (12)

Import Showrooms — USA
Floor space to let in British Sales Center. Travelling reps. and advertising supplied across U.S. Low rental plus commission. Antiques, household goods, clothing, leatherwear, china, glassware, toys, sportsgoods. SLOANE, INC. Import Agents, Wash., D.C. Branch office: 8800 Plymouth St., Silver Spring, Md. 20902, USA. Phone: 301 587-3107. (30)

WANTED: All surplus stocks of nuts and bolts, bearings, etc. Building materials, cars, vans and lorries. Also scrap metals purchased. J. and R. Roberts, 01-515-5334. 9 a.m. — 6 p.m. (27)

Foreign & English Typing Services. Typing in French, German, Spanish and Italian. Accounts typed. Legal engrossment. 49 Queen Victoria Street, London E.C.4. Tel: 01-248 5187. (X26)

Public Auction Sale of Surplus Government Furniture and Equipment

1. A Public Auction Sale of surplus Government furniture and equipment has been arranged at the D.O.E. P.S.A. Supplies Division Store, Bay 5, Ashton Vale Road, Bristol, Avon BS3 2HJ. The sale will commence at 10.00 hours on 10/3/76 and viewing will be allowed on 9/3/76 from 09.00 to 16.30 hours.
2. The Auctioneers are Messrs. Stanley Alder & Price, 7 St. Stephens Street, Bristol, Avon BS 1EG and catalogues will be available from them, 15 pence each plus 10 pence postage. (32)

Government Sales

Ministry of Defence

10 March 1976 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: The Bristol Esso Hotel, Filton Road, Hambrook, Bristol

Auctioneers: Russell Baldwin and Bright (Dept. L), 19/21 King Street, Hereford (tel. 0432-55441)

The lots which are lying at several depots include lathes, millers, drills, grinders and other machine tools, tyres, hydraulic and other jacks, aircraft, MT and electrical spares, oscilloscopes, watches and cameras, 4,800 blankets, greatcoats, jerseys, trousers and other clothing, carpets, 8,500 chairs including dining, occasional, stacking and church, settees, dressing chests, card tables, bureaux and other furniture, scrap canvas and textiles, crockery and cutlery, three tractors, seven cabin trailers, Jones 6/10-ton crane, Scammell breakdown vehicle, road roller, Bedford lorry, minibus, Land Rover, cars, vans and a large collection of miscellaneous stores.

11 March 1976 Furniture

Location: RAF Thorney Island, Emsworth, Hants PO10 8DG

Auctioneers: Stride and Son (Dept. L), Southdown House, St. Johns Street, Chichester, Hants PO19 1XQ (tel. 0243-82626)

A sale of some 900 lots consisting mostly of household furniture which will be sold as single items or in small lots.

17 and 18 March 1976 Miscellaneous Stores

Location: The Hilltop Motor Hotel, London Road, Carlisle

Auctioneers: Harrison and Hetherington (Dept. L), Borderway Mart, Rosehill, Carlisle CA1 2RS (tel. 0228-26292)

The stores on offer include Morris and Mercedes ambulances, Austin-Ford-BMC- Morris Mini and 1000 saloons, Austin and Morris Mini vans, Ford estate cars, Land Rovers, Ford and Bedford tankers. Grinding, sanding, folding, bending, flaring, honing, screwing and cutting machines, pliers, spanners, hammers, files, sockets, punches, wrenches, vices, etc. Amplifiers, power units, receivers, voltmeters, wattmeters, transformers, junction boxes, demodulators, transducers, test sets, insulators, signal generators, nickel cadmium battery sets, fuses, sockets and switches, electronic valves, stop watches, cameras, calculators, lenses, micrometers, oscilloscopes, air mileage units, wooden buildings, service clothing, boots and shoes, wood and metal boxes, steel and aluminium sheets, aircraft wheels and tyres, furniture, pallets, telephone equipment, acid tanks, photographic equipment, paints and a large collection of other miscellaneous items.

Catalogues for the above sales which give details of the lots, conditions of sale, viewing times, etc., are available from the auctioneers from two weeks before and up to the day of the sale. Price 10p (postal orders only).

Wembley Auction Sales 1975/76

2 March 1976

View Days:	Day preceding and morning of sale
Location:	Department of the Environment Property Services Agency Supplies Division Store India Pavilion Exhibition Grounds Wembley, Middx. Tel. 01-903 2508
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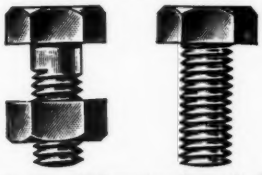

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Export publicity for industry

Publicity for British exporters can often be obtained through use of the facilities of the Central Office of Information, who are concerned with collecting from industry items suitable for dissemination overseas by way of Government information services. The COI are interested in news items, feature article material, photographs, tape recordings for radio, and films for television and other screening. Contact should be made with the nearest Regional Office covering your area.

Northern: Mr H. G. Roberts, Andrews House, Gallowgate, Newcastle upon Tyne NE1 4TB (Tel: 27575 – Telex 53277).

Yorkshire & Humberside: Mr T. Cooban, City House, Leeds LS1 4JG (Tel: 38232 – Telex Econ Plan 55472 – message to be prefixed for COI).

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* National companies in central London, and particularly those with UK subsidiaries or branches, which require overseas publicity should consult Industrial Section at COI Headquarters: Mr. E. Turnbull, Central Office of Information, Hercules Road, London SE1 7DU (Tel: 01-938 2345 ext. 271 – Telex 915444).

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